May 4, 1981 LB 562

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the statement has been repeatedly made here today that by viture of the fact that the legislature as a whole may vote to support some particular proposal or other whether it be a ten million or twenty million on state aid or ADC or whatever, dams, whatever, that somehow we are breaking the budget, increasing taxes, so on and so forth. I want to state that any ones I have voted for, that is not the case at all. What I am doing is a legislators prerogative, the floor's prerogative of prioritization. In other words, we get what we think are the most important things, we emphasize those if we want to make a change and I think that is an indication that we are simply, as I say, as a family would in their budget, they are saying we need a little more money in the gas fund because gas prices are going up. We may need a little less in the entertainment fund, but the ultimate goal may be well not to increase taxes and to remain well within the budget once we have determined what our priorities are. We make our final adjustment then on numbers. I would submit to any members of the legislature that are concerned because we voted for one amendment or another that we are delcaring an intent to increase taxes or declaring an intent to break the budget. But, quite the contrary is true. We are simply utilizing an opportunity to look at the entire picture, put emphasis where we, as a whole body determine we should, and that ultimately we can easily make our final adjustment one way or another to come up with whatever numbers we know we have available for dollars and that is the policy and stange I'm taking and I want to indicate that at this time contrary to what Senator Wesely and some others are saying about we've broken the budget or busted the dam or anything else. We are simply prioritizing.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I rise to oppose the reconsideration for the same reasons I guess that I opposed the initial bill. I can appreciate in the aftermath of what occurs there is always a thought that if one thing goes, one or two other things ought to have gone also, and there may be some logic to that, but I also believe that probably before we get all done there will be some other things that will be taken out or reduced. There isn't any doubt in my mind that when the Legislature adjourns the level of appropriation will be