

May 18, 1981

LB 561

They are taking care of that themselves when they just literally take service money to settle lawsuits quietly. They take care of that part of it themselves. They are taking service money and settling lawsuits for it. They are taking service money and making questionable purchases. They are taking services money and opening up one or two private offices. They aren't satisfied to have offices in the main office. They have to have private offices in the district which, well, let your imagination take off on that one because it won't begin to cover what is going on. For that reason I suggest we not override.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to explain what I believe the financial situation is that the Legislature should consider as well as my own position on this particular override. Let me say initially that the committee thought...well, let me say first, the Appropriations Committee is not operating under a unit rule this year. In fact we agreed or at least we agreed not to act as a body in all instances. There used to be criticism of that occasionally. We have hung together quite well in any event but initially the Appropriations Committee set as a target figure for expenditures, a figure in the vicinity of general fund, all fund sources, as we deem it, of around \$732,500,000 on the expenditure side. In my opinion, this allowed probably somewhere in the vicinity of a million or so more than what was in the Governor's message to the Legislature but that is neither here nor there at the moment. I supported that goal as a total expenditure limit and still do. But based upon the sheets that were passed out to you last week, it indicated to you that after the Governor's vetoes there was around 4.1, almost 4.2 million dollars available for A bills, pending overrides and other legislation still before us. Out of that 4.1 million about 1.6 million of it was shown to be either a bill that was already passed or two bills that are about to be passed but all of which are necessary for the operation...proper operation of state government, leaving a balance of about two and a half million at that time within available receipts, within the available goal the committee has set and within available existing sales-income tax rates. We also chose as a body not to hold A bills until the final action has been taken but rather that the Governor should select, I guess, the priorities to stay within that limit and now I find myself in the position of supporting that limit and as a result supporting the vetoes because we chose to have that priority made there. We have enacted substantial, several million, over and above what is possible within existing