

statute is more appropriate than having just a rule and regulation that is ignored. So that is one small clarification and the other clarification has to do with clarifying the words "current fiscal year" which will be to everybody's benefit. So that is really all the bill is about. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Newell, do you wish to speak to the bill? Senator Newell, do you wish to speak to the bill? Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Beutler a question if I might.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR RUMERY: Is the Board of Equalization subject to the open meetings law right now?

SENATOR BEUTLER: There is some question as to whether it is open to....subject to the open meetings law, and they have not abided by the open meetings law, let me put it that way.

SENATOR RUMERY: What does the open meetings law refer to? Which agencies and so on? I thought it was all government.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I am trying to remember how that is defined, Senator Rumery. I can't remember right off hand, but it doesn't cover all governmental units.

SENATOR RUMERY: Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: I have a question of Senator Beutler. He may have already explained it and I missed it. On page 7 of the new language at the bottom, lines 22, 23 and 24, what is the logic, and I am not saying there isn't. I just... what is the logic of excluding deposits previously?

SENATOR BEUTLER: The logic of excluding deposits for the prior fiscal year, doing that explicitly, Senator Warner, has simply meant to clarify the words...the language up in lines 15 through 18 of that same section. There is an Attorney General's Opinion extent which I am sure you are familiar with which says that you do not count prior years' deposits in making a determination as to whether the difference between expenditures...projected expenditures and actual