

February 5, 1982

LB 454

voting against the proposal and not necessarily because I really believe that absolutely no tax increase is going to be necessary. Because I believe ultimately that if we are going to have to do the job we are going to have to have some additional bucks but this just isn't the time to make that decision in this manner.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Chair recognizes Senator Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: Mr. Chairman and members, I think this is probably a landmark thing. I am going to agree with Senator DeCamp and that is one of the few times I could ever do that. You know this is really kind of a simple process. The Legislature spends the money. We send it over to the Governor and he vetoes, line item vetoes or approves it and whatever increase it takes to put that budget into effect is what the Board of Equalization has to do. It is just really that simple I think and I will agree with Senator DeCamp that 16% may be too much, not enough. It looks like that Senator Warner has come out and said 15% is what it is going to take to fund the budget that the Budget Committee is coming out with. That is the way it looks to me. I don't think we can do it that way. I think what we have to do is to go in our normal procedure, have the budget come out, if the budget is too big we can cut it. If it is too big when it gets to the Governor, he can cut it down to where his appropriation is and then they can set the tax. The people of this state have been told by the Governor that 16% is too much. We don't have to have it. His budget came out we do not need a tax increase. That is what the people believe and now you get the liberals in the Legislature saying, "No, we need more money. We want to spend more." I do not believe it and I will not vote for this particular amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the Warner amendment to LB 454. Senator Warner, do you wish to close? The Chair recognizes you.

SENATOR WARNER: Yes, Mr. President, it is a strange argument today. I'm not sure after hearing the discussion if I am supposed to address 16 because it is too high or address 16 because it is too low. I get the impression that I could address it either way and be in keeping with some of the sentiment. On the other hand, maybe it is just right since some think it is too high and some feel that it is too low. Maybe the middle is the place. Two or three points that have been raised. When we address the resolution on a spending target, an amendment that the majority