

SENATOR NEWELL: Okay, that is on that side. Let me ask you this question. If the Revenue Committee does not give or does not advance the cigarette tax, the corporate income tax and the Governor's over levy thing and it rejects some of the proposals that you have offered to raise money, how much money will be available for expenditure for state operations this year? Or the next year?

SENATOR WARNER: If more of those measures are enacted, you take roughly \$31.2 million off of 758, so you would be down to \$724 million...\$726 million.

SENATOR NEWELL: What percentage of the budget would that be? Can you give me a percentage increase?

SENATOR WARNER: It would be a reduction from this year's level.

SENATOR NEWELL: It would be a reduction from this year's level?

SENATOR WARNER: Yes.

SENATOR NEWELL: Well, Mr. President, I think the....

SENATOR WARNER: A very slight reduction.

SENATOR NEWELL: I think the point that I...I guess I am really wanting to make and it is a very simple point, the rule as I read it says that we should not consider the resolution until three days after the Appropriations Committee kicks it out of committee. This is the earliest we could possibly do this.

SENATOR CLARK: You have one minute.

SENATOR NEWELL: But if we make those considerations now not knowing how much money we are going to raise, we are basically going to be reducing the budget, and so this would be irresponsible to offer any sort of amendment, 7 percent, 2 percent, 3 percent, whatever, until we know where we are going to get the money. I mean, this is an unusual year for this Legislature. It is unusual inasmuch as we are trying to hold the rates at what they are. We don't know how much money we are going to have to do it with. I think the Revenue Committee has to act. I think that Senator Carsten makes a very eloquent point and a realistic point to this Legislature when he