

April 1, 1982

LB 761

CLERK: 22 ayes, 16 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR NICHOL: Debate does not cease. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I would just indicate that back in November and December when we were going through all kinds of areas for review these agencies fell on those lists as well and we had considerable, at least mail and other contact from citizens on these agencies pointing out where they felt they did contribute significantly to some groups of citizens in the state and ought to be continued. We did not expand their activities at all. We looked at ways that some of it could be cash funded but that was pretty limited but anyway the committee felt that they ought to be continued at the level that we currently are and that's what the committee recommendation represents.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator DeCamp. Senator Carsten is next.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I haven't talked in almost a day and a half and I wasn't going to talk today but this is kind of important. Mr. President, I'm going to vote against the amendment even though if I probably had my choice I might eliminate the Commission completely or a lot of other things I would eliminate. This isn't the time. It isn't the place and it isn't feasible. I did what I could and a number of you did over the previous parts of the session. We pushed for a cut of 25 or 35 million. We got it. We pushed for another cut of another 20 or 30 million. We got it. Now if we out on the floor with six and a half days remaining begin to rewrite the whole budget bill, it's Katy Bar the Door. You get into the retaliation scheme and I know because I know how it can work. First of all Steve Fowler and probably Sam Cullan and some others say, well look, you want to save money. We'll teach you how to save money. We'll close the Norfolk Regional Center. Right, okay, and somebody else says, regional center, my, you know what, let's go get Peru College and we're redoing the whole world out here. I just think even if you think the Mexican-American Commission, the Commission on the Status of Women, you name it, even if you think they should be abolished, and believe me there is more than a little sentiment for that. Rex Haberman even knows the experience of attempting to do that, but you open up that can and it is just not a physical or feasible or reasonable possibility at this time. If you really want to cut another 20 or 30 million there is really about one way to do it. And that one way is an across the board whether it be two or three or four percent and whether anybody attempts that or whether that is even workable, that is the bottom line. You're not going to make a major cut in the University. I know, I've tried. I realized the bottom line. We cut them a couple million