

April 6, 1982

LB 761

amount of money but we are able to cut and all these cuts you will see are all university oriented, all state agency oriented, yet we cannot seem to come up with any way in which to touch those political subdivision funds that are going back and taking up a majority of our budget. Understandably, we are all concerned about property tax relief. We are all concerned about the problems involved with our political subdivisions, but when it is time to cut the budget, when it is time to tighten the belt, we have all got to do it and it is going to hurt a lot less than just a few having to do it, and that is what we are doing with the proposals that Senator Warner has here and which we have been basically espousing through the majority in this body throughout this session. I really don't think that is fair to state agencies and state employees but that is what the majority here has indicated is their preference. So I think what Senator Warner is doing here is not what I would like to see done but at the same time the alternatives are not there. I think the alternative of cutting political subdivision aid doesn't seem to be feasible and it probably is not feasible to go back to those two amendments which cut over \$6 million in revenues that we thought we were going to have. And so left with those alternatives being denied, I guess we are left with the Warner proposal and that means reluctant support on my part and many others that have already talked.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President, I would like to ask Senator Warner a question.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Warner.

SENATOR HIGGINS: If he is here...Senator Warner, I have noticed the cutback in out of state travel is \$50,000. Do you know what percentage that would represent of our total out of state travel?

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Higgins, the current appropriation of new money was \$163,000 and a reappropriation of fifty which would have been a total of \$213,000 but I understand that the current year's expenditure will be less than the \$160,000 of new money that we will have next year so the \$50,000 merely is keeping the appropriation for out of state travel at a level approximately to what we had this year. The percentage would be 25% of the total budget that would have been available next year.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Are you saying that we are appropriating