

April 6, 1982

LB 761

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I don't have the magic figure as to what it should be for the next fiscal year to provide money for our staff, but as one who has been working with Senator Lamb during the past year, year and a half, in this area, I would say first of all that we do not have problems with most members of the Legislature. They have been very cooperative. They have been very reasonable for the most part with the salaries that they have been paying their staff. I think there are probably only two who have been upset about the number of staff people they can have and the amount of money that they are being paid. For the most part most of us cut staff down during the interim when the biggest problem we have around the Capitol Building is those who have too many people on staff who do not work and those who do work see this going on and this creates some discontent. Let me emphasize again, this is not the majority of you. By far the majority of you are cooperative and handle this in a sensible way. I am not upset about this cut because I think that each of us will handle it in a way that we see fit. It has not been Senator Howard Lamb's intent in the past to screw the clamps down so tight that you can't function in the way that you think you ought, and again, I don't think this is a big problem. The amount of money that is being cut, I think we can handle it especially with the interim coming on. At the beginning of next year, of course, you will have new people on board perhaps in the Executive Board who will make new policy again for you. So I am not upset about this amount of cut that we are proposing here.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Kilgarin.

SENATOR KILGARIN: I call the question.

SENATOR CLARK: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands?

SENATOR HIGGINS: I can't believe how my light has been on that I could not have been recognized.

SENATOR CLARK: Well, you have spoken once.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Yes. Some Senators have spoken twice, too.

SENATOR CLARK: No, not that I know of.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Perhaps not on this subject but I have heard