

April 16, 1982

LB 816A

However, there is a box in which Senator DeCamp can place the rest of the session. He had said earlier that I would bring things to a halt which I have not done. But what he can do and his colleagues if they decide to put a lot of amendments up there is hold us until twelve midnight. If we stay till twelve midnight, we are adjourned by operation of law and any bill which follows this one will not be heard. The attempt to override the Governor's veto on the employees' salaries will not be heard. So you all can decide whether or not you want to go along with Senator DeCamp, and if you do, and you show me that you want to stay here till midnight on this bill, I will help you stay here till midnight on this bill. But after all is said and done, if as a matter of fact it is passed, 816 will still be the law and I think 25 votes are sufficient. But let me make an observation here since it is the last day of the session. If you read history, and I have read a lot of it as I am sure many of you have, you will see the types of people and the types of actions they place that causes history to take note of them. Very seldom is any individual who dealt in the area of finance remembered, especially in the legislative arena. The one who is probably best known would be Lord Frederick North who was Chancellor of the Exchequer for England and he is remembered primarily because his bungling monetary or tax decisions led to the American Revolution. But if you go through the annals of the Congress, how many budget directors can you name who have been in the U.S. Congress? You probably couldn't name any other than those who might be existing right now and you may not know who they are on each side of the House. But here is what we should consider, that when we come to an issue where it is necessary to make some kind of principled vote, the way you vote on that issue will be of significance, that will be remembered. So whether or not 816 passes or not, is not ultimately going to make that much difference to anybody one way or the other. I will tell you what Lincoln said, "The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it will never forget what we do here", in terms of what is right. You all know these things that I talk about as well as I know them. There is nothing new I can add to what you already know. We know now that we are in the midst of a political struggle. 816 is the bone of contention. When the Civil War existed, they had said that the North was one dog, the South was the other dog and the black person was the bone. Well, I tried to stay out of this dog fight, but having been brought into it, I will come into it with a vengeance. I think that those who voted for this bill originally should vote the same way they did. Since I made the motion, I will vote also and that will be the 30th vote and that will end all the controversy as to whether or not it takes 25 or 30 votes. Then

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