

simply this, that we make the first step in addressing those problems that we are going to be facing which are going to be greater than this one as we meet here again next year and the year after and the year after that, and that as opposed to doing it all in one shot, which I assure you will then blow the lid off of the kettle, I say let's take a little bit at a time. We didn't arrive in three or four years to the point that we are at and are trying to correct that and go into a new direction that we have not experienced for many, many years, and I think to reverse that in a short period of time by one jump is going to be more significant, more painful and more detrimental to the people to learn to cope with than doing it a little bit at a time. I am of the opinion and I said right from the outset that it appeared to me that there was a middle-of-the-road approach to this using some cuts with some additional revenues, and inasmuch as we have been cut from the federal level which is only the beginning, we had better start making preparation to replace that which we are losing. I agree with Senator Haberman and others that there are places that we can cut in our state operations as well as our local operations but I also suggest to you that if we don't and those monies have to come from someplace in order to even just maintain governmental subdivisions as well as our state, then a large part of that is going to go back on property, and when you look at the agricultural income with livestock down, with grain prices down, and we don't give some help to the local areas, that is going to go back on property and then you will hear the howl. I think that Senator Warner is realistic. I think it is a correct approach and I don't like to disagree with the Governor but I just believe that his thinking at this point is not for the best interest of us as we look down the road. And as someone has said, well, let's look at today and then look at tomorrow, I think we have the responsibility to look at today and tomorrow as we approach the problems as they come before us. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I support Senator Warner's amendment. I supported it yesterday in the Appropriations Committee's hearing. I heard both sides of it very carefully for the last couple of days, that is the various approaches of the agencies, their problems, and then finally last afternoon and evening Senator Warner's amendment. I believe that it is being fiscally responsible. Now that is a conservative approach. I know I am conservative. And I think that every member on this floor should consider it carefully. The Warner amendment cuts this year's operating budget \$15.4 million which is approximately the same as the