

I think that the reasons really ought to be very simple. We are looking here...the arguments are that we should save the Governor from himself. That basically has been the arguments that have been presented. Now, frankly, the Governor is in a position to understand what the situation is, and while he may or may not be making the right decision, he obviously has presented this Legislature with his proposal and his option. Frankly, I had, when I came here I had a different view of what should be done and, frankly, if I looked at it purely in terms of what I think should be done, I think that it would in fact be a different view but I obviously didn't go very far with my proposals. They were not even referenced to committees. The first day we adopted rules and those rules said very frankly and very clearly that the Governor's proposal was the one we were going to deal with and that is the one we are going to deal with only. Now we have proposals to save the Governor from himself. We have proposals to kind of even out what some people are predicting might happen. Now frankly I don't think we ought to be doing that. I think frankly that another proposal at this point in time really changes the atmosphere that we set early on and that was the Governor gets what he wants. Now he has made those decisions. He has calculated that. He has assessed it and he frankly feels that that is what is best for this state. I think he is wrong but I think he like the President of the United States deserves an opportunity, deserves an honest chance to make it work. This Legislature has been fairly amenable to his proposals. The rules changes which said we are only going to look at and assess his proposals, and so I think we ought to do exactly what we sort of said we were going to do when we first got here and that is give the Governor what he wants. I urge you to reject the Warner amendment. It does not do that. It proposes to save him from himself and, in fact, the proposal is to even out theoretically and I am not sure that it is even going to do that. I don't think it is going to be the savior because I really think the sales tax receipts are going to drop even more. So I would urge this body to respond to the Governor as it did early on. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair seeing no further speakers, Senator Warner, you may close on your motion.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, last week I was interested in the headlines on Congress on the AWAC planes. I believe Senator Chambers made reference to this last Friday but it appears the new political posture that is acceptable is to say that proposal is wrong but I am voting yes. What ever happened to your own judgment?