

November 5, 1981

LB 8

PRESIDENT: The motion fails. Any further amendments, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Goodrich for purposes of a statement of explanation.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President and members of the body, during the course of the two day hearings that we held on this...the budget committee held on this particular bill, several of the state agencies came in and they requested, for example, we can take the cut but let us have the flexibility to take it where we can do the least damage to our operations. The budget committee actually voted unanimously to introduce this kind of a motion, but.... make this kind of a recommendation rather to the floor of the Legislature. After we decided that though and there was a number of state agencies that chose not to come to visit with the budget committee because that would just take whatever the cuts were handed to them and let it go at that, but later on when this idea surfaced of giving flexibility to the agency to take the cut where they could do the least amount of damage to their operations, some more of the agencies came in directly to the Governor's office and asked if they could be included in it. We instructed our staff to draft the amendment that would give the flexibility but the Governor's office said, well, let us draft the amendment and we can add these other agencies in that have come directly to us and not to the budget committee. So we said, okay, go ahead and draft it. But in the process of shortness of time here, it has not been properly drafted yet and the point we want to make is that we are going to look between now and January, we are going to be looking at this flexibility motion and we are going to draft it in proper form and then come back in January and actually do it. So we will actually be coming back in January with an amendment to this particular bill to give those agencies the flexibility and with this statement on the floor they can rest assured that we intend to do that, at least the budget committee will make the recommendation on the floor and the floor can decide the issue. But in the meantime, because of the press of time we just can't get it done properly for consideration at this time. I am going to yield now to Senator Warner who wants to make a comment on this same subject, and let the agencies take this particular statement as their assurance that we are going to come back and try to do what they want us to do.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Warner. Senator