

November 5, 1981

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and it wasn't so much...and understand whether or not there was a cost or not. As I looked at the fiscal notes, obviously at some point may have a cost, and as you read the fiscal notes, it is obvious based on the Department of Welfare that they was, at least for '83-'83, and that was the amendment I had there, that they had not intended to ask for general fund appropriations, so to that extent it looked to me next time there would be an increased cost and A bills or fiscal notes are designed to show current, future and second year costs. So I asked to have an amendment drawn for the second year costs. Then being a lay person I looked at the call and my concern was one that perhaps is in error but I tied the two calls together, the amended call together with the original one, and I presumed just reading it it was possible that to reduce appropriations because of the fiscal notes and the way it worked could result in possibly being outside of the call. You will recall that I withdrew the amendment and I withdrew it because I thought that if that amendment was adopted then it might even give greater credibility to increasing appropriations, and hence out of the call, and it was not my purpose in offering that amendment to have the bill messed up. I became thoroughly convinced during these two days that we needed to act, that there was a very real problem of jeopardizing a substantial amount of federal funds, that I did not want to see. I certainly didn't want to have to come back again before January if that was going to be the case. As I have done once or twice in the past in special session, I have asked for Attorney General's opinions because I didn't want this body to get tripped up two days after we adjourn on some technicality. I thought we deserved to know any of those possible conflicts while we still have a chance to make an adjustment in it. And as I have said and everyone else has said, you will have to decide for yourself whether or not you feel you are creating a problem. There are those who articulately pointed out that we have not or they feel we do not. I do not know. You have to follow whoever you want. I would also tell you that the motivation, if anyone is suspicious, for the letter came from no one, from me and no one else asked me to or talked to me nor have I talked to anyone on it. It was pure and simple concern that we did not inadvertently have something occur that would look bad for the Legislature procedurally and that was the reason for doing it. Now it is also true I did not support the amendment that was put on but I have never cared for the tactic of trying to defeat something with opinions alone, if that is what you are going to do. If you lose, you lose, but I think the issue is significant enough that the absolutely safe thing to do is to adopt the amendment that is offered. Because then without question we do not run the probability...the possibility of jeopardizing federal funding