

it can be done. And finally, I would suggest that the strongest argument I would think that the State Board of Equalization would try, well, they may use somewhat different figures, but try to accomplish the same goal, is that a majority of that Board, three members, will also be the majority of the Board of three members after the next administration takes office, and whatever error of judgment becomes identified by the action of the Board in November will be required to be corrected by the same three members at whatever time that the problem comes up. So I think the responsibility for any error, if that is what it is, in judgment is clearly rests upon the majority whether it is done now or has to be done at some later date, and on the other hand, should their judgment prove right and their optimism for the economy prove right, I will thank them and I am sure all of the citizens of the state would thank them if the rate changes or as many rate changes as suggested here do not need to be made. On the other hand if they are wrong and the rate change has to be substantially increased, more than would otherwise been the case, then I imagine that that too will be apparent to the citizens as well as us and me.

SENATOR WESELY: I appreciate that response from Senator Warner. I guess the point I was making and I do think we ought to commend Senator Warner for the proposal that he has worked together with the Appropriations Committee to provide to us. That is indeed a way out of the jungle, so to speak, but at the same time we can only do our part in dealing with the problem. There is also a part to be played by the State Board of Equalization and it is important that they assume that responsibility and understand that when we deal with the issue that is before us we are expecting them to be responsible and to take action as Senator Warner has outlined to meet the fiscal problems that we have. They may disagree in some part but I think in the end I think the legislative intent is clear, we expect them to take the action that is outlined in this proposal, and I would encourage them to do so and encourage you as well to make known your feelings and support for the sort of outline that Senator Warner is proposing at this time.

SENATOR LAMB: At this time I would like to make a very important announcement. Today is Senator Cal Carsten's birthday. He is 39 years old according to my information and it is the first time he has had a birthday while the Legislature is in session. He hopes the Legislature will not be in session during any more of his birthdays and he is passing out cupcakes over under the South balcony. How about a hand for Senator Carsten. Coincidentally the next speaker on our list here is Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I told my wife to keep still about this today and I think my staff betrayed me or something. I didn't know anything about this but anyhow thank you very much. I appreciate that. But I did have a couple of questions for Senator Warner, if I may, Senator Warner. As I look at your report, and it is for informational purposes only, I assume that you as you went through the budget that you went program by program for analysis and your recommendations as opposed to the Department as a whole, is that correct?