

a bit but we didn't do them all. My point only is we turned down a lot of things. We did a lot of things. We have tried to craft a budget for you that is sustainable, that tries to hit the needs on the priority levels, hopefully, that we can agree upon. And, while this not a bad program, it's a good program, we feel we have contributed as much as we can at this time on a sustainable basis. I don't want to come back in here and raise taxes. I don't want to come back in here and cut budgets because you know how hard that is. We have done that before. I can't...we're both frustrated, the committee, the rest of the body, it is not a necessary thing to do. It's not like we're not doing things for substance abuse and mental health. I would hope that we could reject this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, please, followed by Senator Chambers.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, as most of you know that I have been here, I did...was the main introducer of LB 280 that was passed in 1985. That bill has since generated over \$5 million. Senator Hall did say in detail, and I won't bore the body on this, that money did go into the General Fund. The people willingly raised money for alcohol and drug problems. Everyone of you know it is increasingly worse and worse and worse. During the budget cutting years it was cut. There was though \$750,000 that was freed that was federal grant money that there was not money to match so it was an increase there that may or may not show up. The point of it...and I truly feel sorry for Senator Hannibal and the members of the Appropriations Committee. Sometimes I admire them, they don't have as many bills to present but then when I see all night and now I see what they're going through I really do. When the tax...the last increment of that tax increase was a year ago in October, that bill generated, if I recall, and this is from memory, \$1.8 million in increase. What did we get? A pittance amount back out of it. I remember last fall in the paper, the headlines, Governor Orr, Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Her Priorities. We have not seen the funding come back through for those priorities at all. Senator Hannibal, I have a real good suggestion for you, a question of you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hannibal, would you respond, please.

SENATOR NELSON: I shouldn't do this to you but I guess this is part of the procedure here. I have a good suggestion where that