

Committee does an excellent job. They do an excellent. They have the most difficult task in the Legislature. I have nothing but good things to say but that doesn't mean that I don't have an opinion just like all 49 of us do with regard to where I might like to see additional dollars in that budget. That's why we have this process. That's why it works as well as it does because we come in here and we debate the merits of the legislation, we debate the merits of the amendments. And substance abuse is on the front line and it's in every paper that you pick up every day of the week, every week of the month and every month of the year. It is a critical problem of monumental proportions with regard to our society today. This is not a light issue that we can just turn our heads and hope it will go away because it will not. It is multiplying day by day and we have got to address it, ladies and gentlemen, and we have done a good job to date. But let's not take a step back. Let's not take a step back and say, what is there presently is good enough. There haven't been enough increases in this programming to continue prevention programs in the high schools and in the grade schools where we need to be and where we need to be on this issue. We need to stop the problem before it ever gets started. I'm asking that we increase the DPI appropriations for substance abuse by \$456,000, right at 10 percent of the budget for that program. These are dollars that we will probably never spend better in the budget and I am willing to take out, if we have to at the backside, I am clearly not guilty based on LB 812 and the Pharmacy College of not being willing to take money out of Senator Lindsay's district, for example. But the issue here is not on this amendment, the life or death of the budget, whether we have to increase taxes or whether we don't. It's a life or death issue, that's for sure. It's clearly a life or death issue for some people and I think that the \$456,000 is a very small price to pay for the benefits that will be derived through the substance abuse programs that we have in this state that are excellent and that we need to maintain at that level of excellence. I would urge the adoption of the amendment and, Mr. President, I would ask for a call of the house prior to that.

PRESIDENT: Okay, the question is, shall the house go under call? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 14 ayes, 1 nay to go under call, Mr. President.