

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Warner would move to return the bill. (Warner amendment appears on page 2142 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this is a serious amendment on my part and I haven't said that after I explain what it is. Fortunately I was just informed of a technical thing that I need to consider so I will explain it so that you can think about it, but I fully intend to offer it at a later date if that chance comes. When this session started I made a personal commitment to myself at least that in the event that the receipts for the state was such that some type of expenditure could be made for a new program such as this, and that in this process I would not be looking at taking away from current basic aid programs or from basic current state operations. My first personal priority was to address the issue of those citizens who were the victims of the industrial loans. So the motion that I have up there was to reduce the eight and a half to 5 percent and I made an error because I forgot about the impact of the homestead exemption as it is written so it would not have worked out. I would have to change the homestead exemption as well. But it would still seem to me that the first commitment of free money, if that's what this is, of 35 to \$40 million ought to be a commitment to provide some much needed state responsibility to those people and I'm willing to do that out of this property tax refund. If the body chose not to do that with the bill that is still pending on General File, then I guess my preference would be that the money just be set aside and reserved for what inevitably is going to be a problem in a couple years. But since I, as I explained, I didn't have it technically drawn correctly, I won't pursue it today but I do want you to know that I will come back in an effort to make what I suspect will be the last chance to do something for those victims of State Securities, Commonwealth and American Savings. It is a one-time expenditure, just as this one is, and I suspect that if we get by this session without it with the revenue being like it is without any relief, why, relief will never really ever occur. I might hold the motion just for a little while in case anybody wishes to speak on the issue. It would give me some clue as to whether I should come back with an amendment, but if there are no speeches, why, I will withdraw.

SPEAKER BARRETT: It is withdrawn. I'm sorry. You wanted some