

May 9, 1989

LB 814

Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have is by Senator Hartnett. This is to strike original Section 40, Senator.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President...or Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I guess when I started yesterday afternoon at one-thirty I guess my contention was and it still was...or still is, I guess, was, is that I got looking at over the weekend and seeing what happened on Friday that we had in the...with the deficit figures of about 90...or last weekend, I think on Friday, it was about \$47 million with deficit as put together by the fiscal office. And I think on Monday it came out to about \$91 million. And I guess I had some concerns I guess and I think one of the things I could understand was capital construction, I guess, or something that was something that maybe looked at things we didn't need to do, and so what I simply did, I guess, is that I simply went, looked at what the Appropriations Committee did above what the Governors did. And I have been accused of different things of why I did this but that's really where it came from and it came from the not knowing the issues, I guess, why these were there. And it's...it...on my part it was...it was a legitimate concern, I guess, been, you know, and I did it with...you know, with sincerity, really did it with sincerity. I thought it was something that needed to be talked about and know about it and I have told some people afterwards, after they explained...I think it started yesterday where Senator Dierks on the Atkinson Dam, I guess I gave him even, yesterday, if you remember, I let him close on my amendment to delete it and I guess that I did this because I saw that, I guess, you know, should we be spending in this state. Because I think we're going to send to the Governor a budget bill, I guess, where she's going to really have to wear out some red pencils, and so forth, and I guess my...my start with this was to...was to simply...maybe we could do something in these areas in capital construction. And I guess I have...I guess that the message that I got from my colleagues in the Legislature, and after it had been explained very well by, you know, different members of the Appropriations Committee that...that, you know, maybe I was, you know, maybe this...maybe they are good programs. I simply did not have any knowledge, and if you've noticed, I have done very little speaking besides introducing the proposals. But I did come to this body with