

spending. It is difficult to cut spending when we are talking about so many of our human service areas. That is the kind of things we struggle with every day, and so when you get down to it, it doesn't make sense to add to a base that you know you are going to sweat blood over when you try to take it away. So it seems to be very prudent at this time to try to figure out a way, at least keep this on file for one more time, so we can look at our options, see if there is a way. Don't throw this option away at this time, and realize that when the tough times come, those tough decisions are going to probably have to be made anyway, but it ought not to be by simply raising taxes. I liken this, and maybe you don't like this analogy either, but I liken the ship of the State of Nebraska as a huge boat compared to perhaps our individual situations where it is like a canoe. It is not really hard to change the direction of a canoe or individual lifestyle or whatever when you get into tough times, but it is awfully difficult, takes enormous amount of turning radius to turn around a large ship, and if we have to make some changes in time, which I think it is inevitable that we do just because of the cycles of economics, it is going to be extremely difficult to change that ship because there is going to be so many people involved to make that change. In fact, it will end up just about being impossible, and so I think it is only prudent now when we have some money to seriously consider about putting some of this excess in reserve and from my viewpoint cut back on some of this spending that was already added in the last few days.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lamb, followed by Senator Warner.

SENATOR LAMB: Yes, Mr. President and members, while there was a reference to the Hall amendment but I think there is no Hall amendment. It is the fact that the question has been divided and this part of this bill will stand or fall on its own. But my question to Senator Warner would be, is it your thinking that we may exceed the 7 percent reserve as provided in statute so that then would this \$50,000 be excluded from the calculations by which you arrive at the reserve figure so that it would not be included in the reserve, is that your thinking, Senator Warner?

SENATOR WARNER: At one time, that was a concern, although I have long ago forgotten that concern, because when you look at the green sheet based on what we had advanced as of yesterday, our balance, statutory required balance, would be estimated to