

March 13, 1990

LB 1031

earlier and I certainly understand his...his concern and as a matter of fact, I have some mixed emotions on this myself because I represent or I'm part of Region VI also, but I don't think that the answer to the dilemma, if we have one, is to buy everybody out and expect that we're going to have the best course of action being decided. I hope that at some future time we will have a chance to vote again on the amendment that was offered by Senator Coordsen. As a matter of fact, I feel fairly comfortable that we will have a chance to vote on it again at some time and Senator Coordsen's 25 votes may have to increase by five in order to keep that in the budget. So I will...I will ask that you not vote for Senator Lynch's amendment because it's just going to further exacerbate, I think, the problem that we have and that problem is trying to make some pretty tough decisions with funding priorities and rather save some time, hopefully, to have a chance to talk with you later about not including all that Senator Coordsen did and I think those...those priorities and those issues may come to us in a more graphic manner later on and you'll see exactly what our financial status will be and that maybe we can have more discussion at that time. I would hope that you would not support this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Labeledz, please.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. President, I was going through my correspondence file as I was listening to Senator Lynch and I received a letter dated March 9 and it says: "Dear Senator Labeledz: My son thought he needed some mental help so he admitted himself to Douglas County Hospital. Because of the cost he decided the next day to leave the hospital. He was there overnight, ate nothing, had a little blood work and a little counseling. The bill is enclosed. I want you to see the constant gouging that will soon completely ruin this country. He volunteered to go into the hospital himself for treatment and the bill shows that he was there one day, December 21, 1989, and his charges were \$734.35." Now to me, there are people out there begging for help and if any...in any way this state can put more money into mental retardation I certainly support it and I commend Senator Lynch for being so courageous as to bring in an amendment to LB 31 (sic). Hopefully, Region VI will get back some of the money that we're not getting next year.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Korshoj, please.