

SENATOR MOORE: Well, Senator Schmit and Senator Lindsay are only telling a part of the story. I think when we're passing out the total funds, actually, if you look at the...go back to '87-88, the total General and Federal Funds of this agency was 250,000 dollars. Now, in our appropriation this year, total Federal and General funds are 575,000 dollars, exactly what it has been; exactly flat from the current year. Now, why? Yes, General Funds have been decreased from 100 thousand dollars to 58, because Federal Funds have increased from 475 to 517. Now if you want to put more money in the program, that's certainly a legitimate excuse to do it, but if the rationale is that we've cut this agency, don't fall for that one because that's not the case. And their funding has more than doubled in the last three years. Now, granted, 575,000 dollars is probably not necessarily a great amount of money to deal with this problem, but to say that they've been treated unfairly I guess wouldn't necessarily be the case. Maybe uniformly they've never been given enough is one thing, but actually their appropriations went up and their Federal Funds have been going up. Now, if you fault the Legislature for decreasing General Funds because of the increase in the Federal Funds, then that's fine. But to say that you need to reinstate this cut because their budget's been cut, you know, is not entirely the whole story because, indeed, as a whole their budget has increased. And so, with that, don't fear for cutting the budget if you vote against this. All you do by voting against this is holding this agency flat and actually they were not cut at all, even the 1 or 2 percent cut. At least a vote no on this will hold them flat at 575,000 dollars, just as they are in the '90-91 Fiscal Year, and 125,000 dollars more than was funded in '89-90 Fiscal Year. And so, if you want to increase the funding for the program, that would be one reason, but to try and argue that this agency's been unfairly cut I don't think would be entirely accurate. For that reason, I rise to oppose the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Moore. I would remind the senators that the house is under call. Does anyone else wish to speak to this amendment? Seeing none, would you like to close, Senator Schmit?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Senator Moore, as you usually do when you explain the budget process to those of us who are neophytes, what you say is partly true. You talk about the general program, the whole program. You do not delineate between the Domestic Violence Programs and the Victim/Witness Programs. Is