

course, they're forced into the issue. One thing I've said for a couple years, we've got too many state employees. I stand by that and I will stand by it. And yet, under 1063, if this gets implemented, I can darn near bet you that I would guess how many state employees the Department of Revenue will hire to implement this. It's utterly ridiculous what's going on in state government and people are sick and tired of it and I hope one of these days there's a revolt. It's got to take place because the tax and spend attitude, especially the last couple years in this Legislature, is beyond belief and I hope one of these days that people get the message and give you people the message and you do do some cutting. I will not be here in the next year or two but I hope that happens and I do support Senator Dierks in his efforts to show what ridiculous things are getting down here and this is one area where we could cut and it wouldn't hurt a darn thing. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Peterson. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Madam President and members of the body, I have no real objection to the amendment that Senator Schmit brought. For your information, the total budget for '92-93 in the ombudsman's office is \$328,944. Ten percent of that would be \$32,894, leaving in the bill then...in the amendment, \$296,050. So it doesn't...in the scheme of things, we dropped 32,000, well, actually we dropped 296,000 from the original 52.7 million, so we're still at 52.5 million. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Madam President, and members of the body, I'm just glad that Senator Warner got up ahead of me and said some things which got me cooled down a little bit because, frankly, I've never lost my cool on the floor of this Legislature and I'm afraid I'm coming real close to it right now. Senator Dierks, I would like to ask you how serious you are about this amendment? And let me preface my remarks by saying to Senator Schmit, yes, I support your amendment to this amendment, Senator Schmit. I think it would be criminal to sit here on the floor of the Legislature this afternoon and wipe out an agency that is so critical for people who want to access our government. But, Senator Dierks, I would like to know how serious you really are about this?

SENATOR DIERKS: Senator Schimek, I think if you heard the