

by line. And if we were going to do this, I think, in all honesty, Senator Dierks, you would agree that this is probably not the time and the place. It's good to bring up the discussion and it looks good about cutting the budget and we all know that we hear that, it's just that these are major cuts ending agencies and, you know, with not even a paragraph of...not even a paragraph of explanation as to the wisdom of it or how it would impact the body. And although it's a number of pages with line-items that add up to a number, it certainly doesn't add up to any philosophy or giving...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR BOHLKE: ...us much knowledge as to how to make this kind of a decision. Thank you.

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

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I call the question.

PRESIDENT MOUL: There is no one else seeking to address the issue right now so I'll call on Senator Schmit for closing.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Madam Chairman and members of the body, I believe that the amendment by Senator Dierks has served a most important purpose. Just as I sprang to my feet and defended the office of the ombudsman, because I have a parochial interest there. I created that office back in 1969, my first term in the Legislature. I am very pleased with the function of the office, as is Senator Dierks. He made that clear. But it didn't take me long to defend the office. Senator Schimek, very justifiably, was concerned because of the adverse impacts upon the state government and the sort of a meat-axe approach, I suppose, that old Dr. Dierks decided to use. But being a man of few words and direct action, he did what he did. Senator Warner, of course, stood up and said you can't do it, it's only intent language. Senator Crosby spoke out very, very...in a very fine manner, I think, and pointed out that she has concerns also but it does reflect what a lot of people are saying, that is that we ought to cut spending. I don't want to cut. I don't want to see the ombudsman's office cut 100 percent. I don't even like to see them cut 10. But the facts are that I will...I guess I am a gambling person, I will wager the best dinner you can buy in town that we'll be back here in the fall, we'll be doing just what Senator Kerrey did...or Governor Kerrey did a