

SENATOR ROBAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members of the body, could I ask Senator Moore a question?

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Moore, would you respond, please.

SENATOR MOORE: Yes.

SENATOR ROBAK: Senator Moore the reason that we are doing this or you're attempting to do this is to cut spending. Is that right? Reduce our budget somewhat...

SENATOR MOORE: Well,...

SENATOR ROBAK: ...otherwise there would be no reason to do this.

SENATOR MOORE: ...there's two reasons to do it. One is, yes, I mean, should...probably the bigger reason though is this agency has been historically cash funded sustaining itself.

SENATOR ROBAK: Okay, then how many committees and boards or agencies are not cash funded that we could...or are not cash funded that we could cut, eliminate from our budget? I mean, I read all these newsletters that I get from different agencies and I do read them and I'm perplexed sometime as to what their goals are. For instance, the Department of Aging, I read that newsletter every time it comes out and the more I age, the less I see that we need for this commission or agency, whatever it is. When I was younger I thought we did need this and now I can see that we simply don't need it...and \$3 million that would cut from our state budget, I believe. And we had a shortfall in four mental health services and, golly, gee, I just think we were asking for like \$180,000 which we could not get. And if we could cut some of these agencies or commissions that we don't need, that are not cash funded, my people always tell me to cut that spending down there, cut that spending down there. I think we should cut that spending. Can you answer that? Can you kind of shed some light why we need some of these...is there some way we can find out which agencies or boards or commissions or whatever that we do not need? Is there really a need for some of these?

SENATOR MOORE: Well, Senator Robak, that's more of a question, there's approximately 80 state agencies, I believe 57 of those agencies receive General Funds, the balance are strictly cash