

we could not afford. I do not think that I, very often, voted for a bill because I liked the context, and then did not vote for the funding. I'm reminded of LB 1059, which was an extremely tempting bill to vote for because it embodied many of the principles in which I believed. But because I did not believe it would ever be truly and fully funded, I didn't vote for the bill. I was criticized in some quarters for not having done so, and I've taken my lumps from some of the educators because I did not vote for the bill. But the facts are that we didn't fund the bill. Same is true, and I think Senator Lynch is very accurately trying to remind us that this Legislature didn't make just a one shot commitment, we made a commitment to teachers, but we're not going to live up to it, because other priorities, of course, take precedence. And therefore with a straight face we say, well, we're sorry, we put the money in there, Governor Nelson took it out. Governor Nelson allowed us other priorities, but we chose to do something else. I am afraid, Senator Moore, that it will not just be \$8 million we will be short in the fall. I would assume that the time will come when Governor Nelson will call us back again and say, all right, now we must cut some more expenditures because the money is not there. We know that the economy is not booming. We know that receipts are down in many areas. We can expect further declines, and it's going to be tough. I guess my question is, how do you respond to those individuals who thought they had a commitment from this Legislature? How do you respond to those individuals who say you took on new programs, new responsibilities? There are bills that are on the board today and that are being sequestered with A bills behind them, some of them small, some of them medium, some of them large, some of them with an untold amount of commitment in future years, but which this Legislature secretly wants to pass notwithstanding the fact that it will greatly expand the budget responsibilities of this body. I would suggest that before we advance any other single bill that's a new program that we take a look at the existing responsibilities. It's interesting contrast again, as I pointed out, we can always find money to build a new prison, but we can't find the money to...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...expend in that area of education which might keep a youngster out of prison. I couldn't help but be touched by the photograph of the 15-year-old lad who is in the penitentiary system today because he committed a murder. And if