

September 28, 1992 LB 14

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I am prepared to fight this bill and I shall. The decision that was taken just now was not a good one. The Department of Personnel should not be merged into the Department of DAS, and I am going to do what I can to keep us from making these hasty decisions during the special session. There were 34 people who felt that the merger should occur. I would venture to say that not one of those 34 persons could stand on this floor and say he or she had studied the implications of this merger and can state what the impact is going to be. But I say again, this is a political special session, but more has to be considered than politics. Even though it is a special session, I have an obligation to fight against those things that I think are hurtful, to fight for those that I think are in the state and the people's best interest. This is one of those issues where some might say reasonable people can differ. I don't think so. I think it is very unreasonable to take a decision of this magnitude with no information, very little knowledge or understanding of even what has been discussed about it by Senator Lindsay. He did not give us hard, substantial information to justify what he and the Governor are asking the Legislature to do. There will come times, as you all know, based on the way things have gone in the past, that an approach will be made to the Governor for certain concessions, and those concessions will not be forthcoming. You will have programs that are near and dear to your heart, which you persuaded a majority of the Legislature to vote to fund, and he will veto them, driving that veto pen deep into your heart like a stake into the heart of Dracula. There will be some whimpering, some whining, some muttering, some snarling under the breath about how this will not be taken, the Governor won't get away with it, but he knows it's just so much hot air, and by the next session it will all be forgotten and he'll have his way again. This that is being done is not an essential move for the Legislature to make, it's one of those things that sounds good. But, if you're going to do this, I would like to have a question or two answered. And the one best able to do that, for me, I think, is Senator Scott Moore. Senator Moore, have you expressed publicly your opposition to, we might call it the initiative being pushed by the Auditor of Public Accounts to have this total review of government? And I know that's an oversimplification of how he has characterized it, but you know what I'm referring to.

SENATOR MOORE: I am not opposed to the concept. I'm opposed to