

emergency clause is stricken, there is no need for the bill. In effect, this would be a motion to indefinitely postpone the bill. By the time the bill would take effect, if it were passed without the emergency clause, based on my understanding of what Senator Wehrbein indicated, there would be no purpose served by passing the bill. I am very offended at the way the Legislature is being knocked around by other agencies of government. I have no criticism of the way the Appropriations Committee handled this issue. They did ask the probing questions. There was one question that I asked which Senator Wehrbein indicated may not have been asked but I won't mention that. Missing one is not such a bad thing especially when the one question missed is one that I would formulate. I was wishing I could have sat on Senator Bud Robinson's committee when they were dealing with the Maximus bill because there were a lot of questions that needed to be asked which were not. But some of these are technical, complex, legal issues; and if you don't have legal training, some things may get by you. What I'm looking at and talking about now has nothing to do with strictly legal issues but the prerogatives of the Legislature. The most significant power that the Legislature has is the power over the purse. The Legislature has the power to appropriate or, in this instance where a distinction has been made, authorize the expenditure from a fund for a particular purpose. I'm saying that my offense that I'm taking derives from the fact that we're allowing agencies and branches of government to divest us of our authority to appropriate and to authorize expenditures by allowing ourselves to be placed in a position as a Legislature where we are told you had better authorize this expenditure or you had better appropriate this money or else. And then they go on their merry way. Then we have contentious discussions on the floor of the Legislature as we should when these issues are this serious. And we rip and tear at each other although this morning we haven't done that with each other because we're in general agreement and we're all upset about what has happened. But the other agencies can laugh. They can be eating rolls or bagels and drinking coffee or diet pop and enjoying themselves and we're over here in the Legislature being divested of one of our core responsibilities and powers, and we have never done that with reference to these other agencies. We get bullied, we get buffaloed, we are intimidated, we whine, we cry and we beg the public to say we are nice little boys and girls and everybody is just bludgeoning us. And, if for once, as a man said, a flock of sheep could behave as a pride of lions, if for once this Legislature could say, in the short run it may cause