

Color, Sylvia Flores, from Grand Island, who in January received her U.S. Citizenship, and Reverend Robert F. Washington, who's pastor of the Apostolic Rock Ministries and Lieutenant Governor of the Kiwanis International Division, District 23 in Nebraska and Iowa. There are all here for a Multicultural Leadership Development Conference at the University of Nebraska. They are under the south balcony. Will you all stand and be recognized, please. Welcome to the Legislature. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Warner would move to amend the bracket motion, Madam President. (Warner amendment, FA217, may be found on page 2134 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, the motion, I did this, this morning, so I assume there will be maybe copies made to pass out. But I'm doing it for the purpose to discuss the whole broad issue, I guess. What my motion does, and it may not...somebody may want to question it. But what it would do, it suggests that if the Appropriations Committee is to go back and review their recommendations to this body, that then they also be given the direction that there's support in this body to enact legislation, which I happen to have here, that I introduced once before in 1987, which would authorize the suspension of any mandated program for the period of time in which the budget is in effect, or for a two-year period. I also have a bill on Final Reading that I would be glad to strip, with 30 votes, and put it in. And I'll be glad to file it today so we can meet the seven-day requirement. But the reason I want to suggest this is that we can...I come in, in the morning, and I keep hearing Appropriations Committee is 78 million higher than the Governor, period. No one ever explains...well, they do in the media, in the written media, but nobody ever explains that the Governor's budget, when it's...and not this Governor, it's been true of every Governor as long as I've been here, it's not new. When they submit a budget they have the privilege of assuming that we're going to repeal a whole bunch of programs and then we don't. And I voted to kill some of the bills that was suggested to do that in committees I serve. So I participate in putting the Appropriations Committee in the position where they don't have a choice but to fund those programs that are mandated. One of those cut sessions that we had back in the eighties, I don't remember which one but I think the total General Fund appropriation was like 732, 735 million,