

approve. But those of you who were here, and Senator Beutler will remember '85 when the Appropriations Committee volunteered to do exactly what is proposed here today, we did it, however, because there had been a swing in the forecast from the time the bill came out of the committee and a time that the Legislature...a downward swing in the forecast of revenue. Between the time the bill had left the committee and before General File or during the process on the floor, may have been at Select File, I think, and at that time we came back with the recommended cuts that many will recall that were involved or affected were severe. Most of that money was put back in over time. But the facts were that we were very limited, very limited in a very short period of time on the things that we could do. And if you want to have the authority to suspend a program for a period of time for revenue reasons then the enactment of legislation such as could be considered is what is necessary to do. And I don't want anyone to vote for this lightly or not, fully realize that some programs could very well end up being suspended, that you don't support having it happen but it is the only vehicle I know of that has been used, at least in one other state, which allows in a short period of time...

SENATOR HALL: One minute.

SENATOR WARNER: ...to balance the budget by utilizing a suspension of some particular law for a period of time, designate it in the appropriation bill approved by the Legislature. It's a vehicle that can be used and one that I would hope you consider. I'm not supportive of the bracket bill without this and I see absolutely no point in asking the Appropriations Committee to come back when they can only deal with discretionary money in order to make reductions. And, again, I would also echo the comments that when state operations, which is what...the only place that we have a whole lot of discretion, is well under, on the average, based on the book, is well under 4 percent, 3.4 percent over a period of time, and that certainly is in keeping with what is being asked of local government. But I only rose one more time because I don't want people to...

SENATOR HALL: Time.

SENATOR WARNER: ...support this amendment without realizing its real impact.