

the budget. The Governor can set a pattern, but there isn't any rule, regulation, law that I know of that the Appropriations has to roll over and say okay, we'll do what the Governor wants, and I'm not talking about just this Governor, any governor. On the last go around you have voted three times to move the budget. It was not unanimous and there are those of you who feel that voting no on the budget is what you should do. That's all right. As long as you're consistent I don't argue. But when you look at these things that we brought back, we tried very hard to answer to the people and I know you've been getting the same calls I have and it's the people who are in need and the developmental disabilities, we've been at this for how many years? A long time trying to bring that up to speed. The other thing is the StarTran money for Lincoln and for Omaha Metro, I forget what they call it, Metro something in Omaha. A lot of low income people and people who go to a job every day eight to five use the bus. It also, and Senator Beutler sent around a copy of the letter from Madonna and I've had others too, it includes the handibus money. So there are people who would suffer because they would have to start paying more and many of them are low income or they're on Medicaid help or whatever to get back and forth to adult day care...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CROSBY: ...and so on. The handibus is very important to them. I do think that we brought in a good motion here this morning. I hope that you will pay attention to it and compare, compare it to the numbers that were handed out so you see what programs are affected and listen to the questions that are asked back and forth and I think that each one of us has to decide for ourselves, are we in charge of the budget? Well I feel that we should be, we, Legislature is in charge of the budget and let's vote today to bring in a good, sound, sensible budget that will answer the needs of the people that you've been hearing from the last six or seven days. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Mr. Clerk, I understand you have an amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend the motion as offered by the Appropriations Committee. (FA353 appears on page 2762 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers.