

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Is there any further discussion of the Witek amendment? Seeing none, Senator Witek, to close.

SENATOR WITEK: Madam President, members of the body, if you just adopt...refuse to adopt an amendment and if you do adopt 1044 on Final Reading as is, you are doubling the management in these agencies. If you aren't raising the personnel service limit to accommodate that, then those management individuals will have to look at ways to cut the costs in those agencies. So what we are asking for in this amendment is, what is your plan to reduce those costs then? If this is what we're adopting on Final Reading, if this is what you're adopting, and you're not going to give...we are not going to appropriate more money then how are you going to cut costs to accommodate those 15 new individuals? That's only one area. And I'm saying when you look at this restructuring and it's not going to affect...it's not looking at the federal aid or anything else, it's talking simply about if we're talking about streamlining, making things more efficient, if you notice that there's a cost savings there could you let us know in this plan that we can allow our Appropriations Committee to work with in their next years budget and then us, that we will have suggested areas, because what I have found most difficult as a legislator being asked continually to cut costs because of the burden of taxes, is to tell them, I come in here for 60 days or 90 days, once a year, and I know how hard the Appropriations Committee works from morning until night when they're putting their budget together. But still you're asking people to come in from other areas of the state, look at the state agencies and try to cut costs. It's a very tough thing to do. But if you ask the people who are involved in the state agencies to do that, and especially as they are looking at this type of a restructuring effort, maybe they can come up with some suggestions. So all I'm simply asking is when you put the plan together could you let us know if you see any areas that we can reduce operating costs as a result of this restructuring effort. And that's all my amendment does, and I would ask you to adopt it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Witek. Question before the body is the adoption of the Witek amendment to LB 1044. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Please record.