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of session the same things will continue to happen, because the same tendencies are always there. We will wait until we see what all the priorities are, and then we'll start down. And if you happen to be lucky enough to be and have a groundswell of support, your policy or concept will likely be successful. If you don't, your initiative will not go, it will not pass and there won't be enough money. And then we will get to a point where the minimum reserve comes up and we will say, I'm sorry, I don't care how good your policy is, we don't have any more money left. And that's the way it has happened in the past. There weren't even A bills, there was just bills out there, and we found ways to fund them. Over the years, the A bill process has been of assistance so we can see ahead of time. I would hope at this point that we could try to arrive at some conclusion this morning, if not in the very near future as to what that target would be. From my point of view, I think it ought to be a five-year average, less 1 percent, gauged to net personal income. I really think that truly is what the public is looking for. I think that allows us flexibility in good years. And I'm leery at this point of just looking at what we spent last year as a good gauge. I think it adds too much unpredictability. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. For discussion on the Coordsen amendment, Senator Wickersham, followed by Senators Coordsen, Beutler, Jones, and Bohlke.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. I want to say, without denigrating the proposal we have from the Appropriations Committee, that I think Senator Coordsen's proposal is a much better proposal than what we saw from the committee, for a variety of reasons. But on a more fundamental basis, I would suggest to you that some of the discussion today, I think, has in fact missed the mark completely, and that in part this discussion is premature. I think this discussion is premature because we, as of yet, have no real idea of what the needs of the state are. And how do we define the needs of the state? We do that through the appropriations process, and ultimately through the A bill process. I am not one of those who thinks the A bill and the appropriation process has failed us, nor do I think it is necessarily broke. We may have to accommodate ourselves to some changing circumstances, but I don't think it's