operational at this point in time. Whether they will be in another year on the supplemental appropriations bill, that is a question to be addressed at that time. But I am not...at this time, I'm not in support, but that does not mean I would be in opposition to it if his analysis is that's what he needs.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. I'm going to see this afternoon if there are people who are going to support several millions of dollars to staff a facility that doesn't even exist yet. And I can understand what Senator Coordsen's saying with regard to this one, because there will not be trips that the Ombudsman's Office will have to make at this point. But I'm sure that that analysis will demonstrate the need for additional staffing, and there are times I've had to intervene on behalf of...I've had to intervene in situations when I became aware that something needed to be done and others didn't feel that they were in a position to really make the move. So if I deem it to be important, I'm going to make the offer, and if it's rejected, fine. But I just want to call our attention to the fact that there is an office that statute has given certain duties to, and that office is scarcely able to keep its nose above the water at this point. I'm not speaking against the rehiring of Mr. Lux, though.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Seeing no other lights, Senator Coordsen, you're recognized to close. Senator Coordsen waives closing. The question is the confirmation report found on Journal page 796. Those in favor vote aye; those opposed nay. By statute, 33 votes are required. Have you each voted? Please record.

CLERK: 40 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the confirmation of Mr. Lux as Public Counsel.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The confirmation report is adopted. Senator Smith? We have items for the record?

CLERK: Mr. President, study resolution LR 88, by Senator Suttle, as with all study resolutions, will be referred to the board. That's all that I had, Mr. President. (See page 1827 of the Legislative Journal.)