

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 21, 2000 LB 1217

and women faculty members, money could be spent on that for Celebrate Women's Month or Martin Luther King Day. I mean there's nothing in here that is punitive as the legislation that was passed in 1997 called for. I don't understand why we would want to just reallocate money in a way that would give an agency, a government agency, just to expend money for, you know, without some stated goals. Senator Suttle, if you'd like a minute to kind of explain this a little further. My inclination is, is that we should wait for the resolution to be adopted and see what the special committee says on this. But, on the other hand, you know, if they're not meeting the goals, I think we should...we should follow the letter of the law and punish them in some way. I just don't see this as doing that.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Suttle, there's about two and a half minutes left.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Bourne, if you will look, it's really up to the DAS to decide this and that's what makes it tricky for those of us in the Legislature. It says that...that the...that the Department of Administrative Services should use its allotment authority. As I read in the newspaper, have not talked to Lori McClurg, who is the head of DAS, as I read her quote in the paper, she said she did not see any problem. So the reason we are doing this rather than the DAS, says they don't see any problem and I don't know that we have a problem, we just have not met the benchmark for this year by one. And so I...I think that we, as a Legislature, have to wait until 2002 to do what you have...you are, I think, inferring from this language, and I see it as the DAS. You're on now.

SENATOR BOURNE: I guess my question is,...

SENATOR COORDSEN: I think you're on.

SENATOR BOURNE: ...Senator Suttle, and I realize it's not your amendment, but how is this amendment or the amendment to the amendment going to encourage the university to meet their hiring goals?

SENATOR SUTTLE: Because they have to use this money for the...