

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

April 23, 2003 LB 759

the other stuff that we need to do we still aren't going to reach every dollar that we need by cuts. We'll probably have to raise some taxes and I want this...hopefully have this in place so that can be done at that time. But there's going to have to be a lot more cuts in my book than what I've heard of so far, and that has to be done on the state's side, not on the schools,...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: ...local government, county and city. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Pedersen. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER; Senator Bromm, members of the Legislature, I just wanted to comment briefly on the episode with Senator Thompson's amendment and the Governor's hijacking of Senator Brashear's bill. I guess, Senator Brashear, that one of the advantages of a nonpartisan system is that a Governor can discourteously be dismissive of his own party leadership in the Legislature under this system. So maybe we can expect this kind of relationship. But what...but the positive point I want to make right now is that we really should have every expectation that the Governor should present his plan now. Now, because we are starting off in here, we are making a plan. We are following through with the plan. We don't know exactly what the plan will be, but there are the broad outlines there as between Senator Brashear's bill and the Appropriations Committee recommendations. And if the Governor wants to be a part of this process, he owes it to us to reveal what his plan is and to let us deal with that as we are dealing with things generally. And the Governor originally had a plan. That plan was so totally unrealistic and destructive that there is nobody that I know now that supports the Governor's original plan. The revenue projections came out, made the Governor's plan further impractical and further impossible. And yet the Governor has been silent in February. The Governor has been silent in March. The Governor has been silent in April until just now. And it seems to me that the essence of leadership is for somebody to come forth with their revised plan and allow the Legislature to