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FLOOR DEBATE

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proposals that were presented to us had merit. We had to evaluate the proposals on the basis of how it compared with other spending of the state, and that's the basis that we used to come up with our budget that we are proposing in this amendment. I want to offer my sincere thanks to the members of the Appropriations Committee, who have worked very diligently to come up with this proposal. We didn't just say, that's okay, let's just go forward with it. We evaluated. And, you know, it's interesting. We are a citizen Legislature, so we have people coming from all walks of life, all backgrounds, and all experiences. But I think that the Appropriations Committee, in a sense, is a microcosm of the state itself, because it represents you. And we're trying to evaluate the requests made to us, and we all come from a certain amount of experience and background, and that is shared when we discuss these various items. So this proposal is a compilation of the efforts of the Appropriations Committee, and I request that you give approval to our actions. Thank you.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Pederson. You've heard the opening on AM2581 to LB 1060. Next item, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, I now have a series of amendments to the committee amendments. Senator Foley has the first amendment, AM2617. Senator, did I understand you want to withdraw and substitute AM2441? (Legislative Journal page 1020.)

SENATOR FOLEY: That's correct, Mr. Clerk.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: No objection, so ordered.

CLERK: Mr. President...

SENATOR FOLEY: Thank you very much, Mr. President and members. Earlier this session I offered to the Legislature LB 1242. You might want to pull up the committee amendment, or the committee statement, I should say, to that bill, LB 1242, because the amendment that I'm offering this morning, AM2441, is essentially the committee amendment that was developed by the Health Committee, came out without any dissenting votes, and I'd ask your favorable consideration of it this morning. Let me tell