

That's the way it's always going to be. Identifying those is one thing, eliminating those is an entirely different thing.

SENATOR BROMM: Yeah. Thank you, Senator Moore. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you Senator Bromm. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I probably shouldn't continue this but Senator Bromm's comment raised an issue that I would like to talk a little bit about. And, you know, it's always good to be looking at government and looking at expenditures. I would rise to expand though on what Senator Moore has already said, because I would be quick to argue that the Appropriations Committee looks at far more than what we sometimes talk about is the 5 percent. That was a process that was developed, I don't remember, eight, ten years ago, to have agencies identify, on a priority basis, what they thought was least important. But I'm sure Senator Moore would say that there are a variety of the programs that come up in the process of the appropriations review, staff review, that identifies areas that need to be taken...taking a look at. As I indicated, about every ten years, as long as I have been here, we've gone through the whole big study, usually initiated by governors, the Little Hoover Commission was one of them, I've forgotten the name of all of them. Private people, citizens, usually came in. Last year...I'm not talking about the Auditor now, I'm talking about a process, last year there was a lot of publicity about what Texas has done, how many umpteen billion dollars they had saved by looking, and it was a whole host of head...news content stories that were okay but they didn't go in and actually look at what happened. One of the biggest savings Texas had is what we're trying to do, is comparable, not the same. In LB 815, they shoved some, I can't remember, around \$700 million, as I recall, might have been 800 million, that they shoved by changing their Medicaid system of matching federal funds, that they could draw more federal funds and reduce their state budget. Well, that didn't save any money. It shifted it to another...to another source. They proposed to...because they're building prisons down there and they fund roads out of, in part, out of their General Fund, and the reason they do that is that it used to be that when the price of oil went up a dollar a barrel they got forty more million dollars. When the price of oil was skyrocketing, they had money running out of their ears. So, in order to reduce the General Fund