

Senate Floor Proceedings - March 29, 2018
Legislative Judiciary Budget Bill S7501

1691

1 Secretary will ring the bell.

2 The Secretary will read Calendar
3 Number 732.

4 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number
5 732, Senate Budget Bill, Senate Print 7501, an
6 act making appropriations for the support of
7 government: LEGISLATURE AND JUDICIARY BUDGET.

8 ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator
9 Krueger.

10 SENATOR KRUEGER: Thank you.

11 If the sponsor would please yield to
12 some questions.

13 ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator
14 Young, do you yield?

15 SENATOR YOUNG: Yes.

16 ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The
17 sponsor yields.

18 SENATOR KRUEGER: Thank you. So
19 this is the first budget bill we are dealing with
20 on the floor. So according to Section 16,
21 Chapter 1 of the Laws of 2007 --

22 SENATOR YOUNG: Mr. President,
23 could I just correct something?

24 SENATOR KRUEGER: Certainly.

25 SENATOR YOUNG: This is the second

1 budget bill that we're considering.

2 SENATOR KRUEGER: Thank you. This
3 is the second budget bill we are taking up this
4 year. Thank you, Senator Young.

5 And relating to Section 16 of
6 Chapter 1 of the Laws of 2007, it requires, prior
7 to a vote on the budget bills, a summary report
8 to be placed on the desks of its members that
9 itemizes the impact of proposed budget changes
10 and, where practical, impacts on local
11 governments, the state workforce, and All Funds
12 spending.

13 Is this report on our desks?

14 SENATOR YOUNG: Through you,
15 Mr. President, no, it's not.

16 SENATOR KRUEGER: Through you,
17 Mr. President, if the sponsor would continue to
18 yield.

19 SENATOR YOUNG: Yes.

20 ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The
21 sponsor yields.

22 SENATOR KRUEGER: Since it's not on
23 our desks, does the sponsor know when we should
24 be expecting this report and why we're not
25 getting it now?

1 SENATOR YOUNG: Through you,
2 Mr. President. Actually these are the printed
3 bills that are ready to be passed. And so you
4 have all of the background information on these
5 particular bills, and you will be getting the
6 rest of the report very shortly.

7 SENATOR KRUEGER: Through you,
8 Mr. President, if the sponsor would continue to
9 yield.

10 SENATOR YOUNG: Yes.

11 ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The
12 sponsor yields.

13 SENATOR KRUEGER: Thank you.

14 So we don't have the report, but I
15 believe we do know that there's a \$4.4 billion
16 deficit for the fiscal year starting April 1st,
17 with the Governor proposing almost a billion
18 dollars in revenue proposals. Do we know if
19 there's a financial plan for a three-way
20 agreement that might be coming to us any time
21 soon?

22 SENATOR YOUNG: Through you,
23 Mr. President, yes, I have details on a financial
24 plan, and I would be happy to answer any
25 questions that Senator Krueger may have.

1 SENATOR KRUEGER: Through you,
2 Mr. President, if the sponsor would continue to
3 yield.

4 SENATOR YOUNG: Yes.

5 ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The
6 sponsor yields.

7 SENATOR KRUEGER: Thank you.

8 So there's a three-way agreement to
9 close the \$4.4 billion financial gap.

10 SENATOR YOUNG: Correct.

11 SENATOR KRUEGER: But we don't have
12 a report on our desks showing us any numbers.

13 SENATOR YOUNG: Through you,
14 Mr. President, I've already answered that
15 question.

16 SENATOR KRUEGER: Through you,
17 Mr. President, the sponsor has offered to answer
18 any questions on the financial plan that we do
19 not yet have on our desks. Can she give us an
20 outline of what that three-way financial plan
21 might be?

22 SENATOR YOUNG: Sure. The enacted
23 budget is a fiscally responsible budget that will
24 promote economic growth by rejecting tax
25 increases, controlling spending, and making

1 targeted, sound investments. State Operations
2 Funds spending, which excludes capital, increases
3 by 2 percent from 98.1 billion to 101.1 billion,
4 an increase of \$2 billion. All Funds spending
5 increases -- excuse me. In addition, the Senate
6 budget includes \$400 million in additional
7 program spending, excluding direct school aid,
8 and there also is new capital money included.

9 So the enacted budget is funded as
10 follows: \$750 million in additional tax revenue
11 agreed upon by the Executive and both houses, and
12 this is used to offset the cost of the tax
13 package; \$112 million in available additional
14 spending under the 2 percent State Operating
15 Funds spending cap; \$400 million in agreed-upon
16 table targets, adjustments and reestimates in the
17 spending base to finance other initiatives.

18 SENATOR KRUEGER: Through you,
19 Mr. President, if the sponsor would please
20 continue to yield.

21 SENATOR YOUNG: Yes.

22 ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The
23 sponsor yields.

24 SENATOR KRUEGER: So I do
25 understand that we're in a complicated situation

1 because we're here at 11:30 p.m. moving some of
2 the bills because they were ready to go with
3 messages of necessity. Unfortunately, we do not
4 have a fully fleshed-out financial plan or budget
5 report.

6 And I appreciate the sponsor's
7 answers to my questions, and I'm not going to
8 bring them up on each of the three bills that we
9 do tonight. But in the absence of any real
10 detail at this point on any individual bills, can
11 the sponsor commit to me that prior to doing
12 bills beyond these three bills, we will be able
13 to see the full financial plan as the Budget
14 Reform Act requires?

15 SENATOR YOUNG: Through you,
16 Mr. President, yes.

17 SENATOR KRUEGER: Great. Thank
18 you, Mr. President.

19 And one additional question, through
20 you, Mr. President.

21 ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Will the
22 sponsor continue to yield?

23 The sponsor yields.

24 SENATOR KRUEGER: Thank you.

25 Can the sponsor estimate for me --

1 and for each of the bills, I'll just ask all
2 three now -- what the estimated fiscal impact of
3 each of the three bills we are dealing with
4 tonight are? Either is or are, Mr. President.

5 SENATOR YOUNG: Through you,
6 Mr. President, \$100 billion of State Operating
7 Funds, which is equivalent to a 2 percent
8 increase.

9 SENATOR KRUEGER: I'm sorry,
10 Mr. President, perhaps I didn't ask the question
11 right. The three bills we're taking up tonight
12 that are Article VII bills, there's a \$100
13 billion fiscal cost for these three bills in
14 total? Excuse me, one approp and two Article
15 VIIs.

16 SENATOR YOUNG: Through you,
17 Mr. President, just to answer Senator Krueger's
18 question, we calculate the entire fiscal impact
19 of the -- we don't break it out by bills. It's
20 not broken out by bills. We look in the context
21 of the entire budget.

22 SENATOR KRUEGER: So the answer for
23 the entire budget is -- if I could ask you to
24 repeat the number. Through you, Mr. President.

25 SENATOR YOUNG: Through you,

1 Mr. President, \$100 billion in State Operating
2 Funds, which is equivalent to a 2 percent
3 increase.

4 SENATOR KRUEGER: Thank you,
5 Mr. President.

6 ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Thank
7 you.

8 Is there any Senator that wishes to
9 be heard?

10 Seeing none, hearing none, the
11 debate is closed.

12 The Secretary will ring the bell.
13 Read the last section.

14 THE SECRETARY: Section 5. This
15 act shall take effect immediately.

16 ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the
17 roll.

18 (The Secretary called the roll.)

19 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 60.

20 ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill
21 is passed.

22 The Secretary will continue. The
23 bell has been rung; we're on the controversial
24 calendar.

25 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number