

**BROOME COUNTY LEGISLATURE
SPECIAL SESSION
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1991
7:30 P.M.**

The Legislature convened at 7:30 p.m. Called to order by the Chairman, Arthur J. Shafer.

The Clerk, Richard R. Blythe, read the fire exit announcement and then called the attendance roll: Ayes-17; Absent-1 (Yeager). Mrs. Coffey arrived prior to the discussion to override objection #9.

The Chairman, Mr. Shafer, led the members of the Legislature in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, followed by a moment of silent meditation.

Written Presentations of the County Executive:

Presentation of County Executive's objections to changes proposed by the Broome County Legislature in the 1992 Budget.

Other Matters Pending or Referred from Previous Meetings:

Consideration of veto message from County Executive pertaining to 1992 Budget.

Consideration of rescheduling Legislative Session from December 5 to December 12, 1991.

The Legislature received a letter and 16 objections from the County Executive to Legislative changes to the 1992 Budget. The Chairman indicated that the Legislature would take up these objections one by one in numerical order. (Clerk's Note: At the end of each individual objection the reader will find the Legislature's actions with regard to override motions and votes).

November 19, 1991

Honorable Members of the
Broome County Legislature
County Office Building
Binghamton, New York 13901

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Attached you will find my objections to the 1992 Budget returned to me on November 15, 1991. For the most part, I have accepted the Legislature's management challenges.

The criteria I have used for my objections are twofold.

First, I have objected to changes to the budget which will result in layoffs. In these difficult economic times, I think we should avoid layoffs wherever possible. This is especially harmful because these positions provide direct services to people or a benefit to the community. Second, I have objected to changes to the budget which will result in the underfunding of obligations which we are mandated to pay.

While I am advised that we have a legal obligation to make the payment to BCC in the amount of \$1,189,125, I have not objected to the deletion of these funds. The Finance Committee will attempt to compromise with the College on this matter and I feel this is an acceptable way of resolving this issue.

I have also not objected to the Legislatures transferring of \$150,000 from contract agencies to the Contingency Account. I feel quite confident that legislative leaders have made a commitment to consider these funding requests and have provided a mechanism for funding these agencies. Over the next few days, I will be sending you backup materials to support these objections. If you have any questions or would like to discuss these objections in greater detail, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

TIMOTHY M. GRIPPEN
BROOME COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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OBJECTION NO. 1.Restoration of Assistant to the County Executive.

Department: Executive
Division: N/A
Page(s): 20, 21, 22

Budget	Executive	Legislative	Exec. Object.
<u>Lines</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>

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1500	\$16,102	<\$16,102>	\$16,102
8010	5,069	<403>	403
8030	27,213	<1,232>	1,232
8040	7,183	<523>	523

Objection:The purpose of my objection is that Broome County has made a substantial commitment to both government consolidation and economic and community development. This commitment has been made by the last three chairpersons of the Legislature. This part-time position has provided the staff support needed to fulfill this commitment. This position has supported the following government and community groups.

Broome County Partnership Council
Co-chairs Grippen/Lacatena-Coffey-Shafer

Broome County Economic Development Roundtable
Co-chair Broome/SUNY/Columbia Gas/NYSEG

Partnership 2000
Chair - Ron Budacz

Columbus Day Quincentennial
Co-chairs Libous/Grippen

Ad Hoc Committee on Consolidation
(Broome County Council of Governments)
Chair - Emil Bielecki

I respectfully request that you reconsider the deletion of the position of Assistant to the County Executive.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mr. Seeley to override Objection #1. Following debate, Mr. Pazzaglini moved, seconded by Mrs. Greenmun to call the question. Carried by the following: Ayes-17; Nays-0; Absent-2 (Coffey, Yeager). Objection #1 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-12; Nays-5 (Kavulich, Malley, Pasquale, Schofield, Shafer); Absent-2 (Coffey, Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 2.Restoration of Other Fees For Services

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Department:Executive
Division:N/A
Page(s): 21

Budget	Executive	Legislative	Exec. Object.
<u>Lines</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>
4747	\$10,000	<\$10,000>	\$10,000

OBJECTION:The Charter indicates the Legislature's determination to seek and pay for outside legal counsel is illegal. I suggest you address this in your review of the Charter. However, if you insist on getting second legal opinions then I believe public policy would be better served by affording both branches of government access to independent counsel.

The purpose of my objection is fairness. If the Legislature plans to occasionally ask for an outside legal opinion, shouldn't the Executive be afforded the same privilege? I respectfully request that the Legislature restore the funds for "other fees for services."

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mr. Howard to override Objection #2. Objection #2 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-15; Nays-2 (Kavulich, Pasquale); Absent-2 (Coffey, Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 3.Restoration of Accountant

Department:Finance
Division:N/A
Page(s):86, 87, 88

Budget	Executive	Legislative	Exec. Object.
<u>Lines</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>
1000	\$421,316	<\$22,374>	\$ 22,374
8010	5,670	<559>	559
8030	32,206	<1,712>	1,712
8040	8,478	<727>	727
8050	340	<20>	20
8060	32,161	<1,156>	1,156

Objection:The purpose of my objection is that the position of Accountant provides a service to banks, real estate brokers and attorneys who need this service in order to close mortgages and other real estate transactions which require tax certificates. Cutting this position will cause an unnecessary delay in issuing said tax certifications. This position does generate revenue. The total salary and fringe benefits is \$26,548.00 with offsetting revenues of \$11,000.00. Therefore the net County support is \$15,548.00. The savings anticipated by deleting this position do not warrant disruption of the real estate industry especially in these difficult economic times. In addition, cutting this position will impede the offices ability to manage grants and reconcile these accounts.

This will result in slower repayments from State and Federal governments. I respectfully request that you reconsider the deletion of the position of accountant.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mr. Howard to override Objection #3. Objection #3 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-13; Nays-4 (Kavulich, Malley, Pasquale, Shafer); Absent-2 (Coffey, Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 4.Restore FT Public Health Nurse and Clinic Supplies.

Department:Health
Division:Clinics and Disease Control
Page(s):243-246

Budget	Executive	Legislative	Exec. Object.
<u>Lines</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>
Restore Clinic Supplies for treatment of disease (Tuberculosis)			
4363	36,791	<2,009>	36,791
Restore 2 FT Public Health Nurses			
1000	\$392,538	<\$43,712>	\$43,712
1500	139,215	21,855	<21,855>
8010	6,629	<546>	546
8030	41,092	<1,672>	1,672

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8040	10,929	<710>	710
8050	440	<40>	40
8060	26,714	<1,156>	1,156
8063	1,209	<130>	130
0549	32,439	<25,716>	25,716

OBJECTION:I object to cutting the clinic budget for medications which are mandated and necessary to prevent tuberculosis. The number of refugees coming to Broome County has increased from 210 in 1989 to 697 in 1990. It is imperative that these people be tested and treated with medications that prevent them from having active tuberculosis. Having to treat active tuberculosis is much more costly than providing preventative medications. I respectfully request that the Legislature reconsider cutting medication which can prevent more cases of active tuberculosis.

I also object to the change in status from full time to part time of the Public Health Nurse and Registered Professional Nurse. Lead screenings and AIDS (HIV) testings are both national and state priorities and we should not be cutting back in these areas either. Also, there are no real savings in these cuts. This provides for a simpler and more efficient presentation of these positions as already accepted in the Environmental Health Division.

I respectfully request that the Legislature reconsider changing the status of the Public Health nurse.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mrs. Wagstaff to override Objection #4. Objection #4 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-15; Nays-2 (Malley, Pasquale); Absent-2 (Coffey, Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 5:Restore Public Health Social Worker and Home Health Aides

Department:Health Department
Division:Home Health Services
Page(s):257, 260, 261, 262

Budget	Executive	Legislative	Exec. Object.
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<u>Lines</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>
1000	\$1,096,358	<\$120,426>	\$120,426
1500	87,702	<16,000>	16,000
4461	74,546	<4,546>	4,546
4706	59,279	15,000	<15,000>
4710	97,336	50,016	<50,016>
4715	529,487	41,251	<41,251>
8010	17,466	<3,011>	3,011
8030	93,763	<10,437>	10,437
8040	24,760	<4,434>	4,434
8050	1,040	<140>	140
8060	79,018	<8,092>	8,092
8063	2,832	<455>	455
0070	2,251,758	<59,876>	59,876
0269	105,086	<9,174>	9,174

OBJECTION:Public Health Social Worker

My objection to the deletion of the Public Health Social Worker position is that the position actually creates more in revenue than expense: \$51,472 in revenue vs. \$32,000 in expense. The additional revenues offset other expenses in the Health Department budget. This is a mandated expense. This Social Worker visits over 100 patients who receive long term home health care, most of whom have very complex medical and social problems. The Social Worker is also available for various other clinics and visits our other patients in home care. I respectfully request that the Legislature reconsider this cut and restore the position of Public Health Social Worker.

OBJECTION:Home Health Aides

I object to the deletion of five full time Home Health Aide positions (one is retiring) and two part time Home Health Aide positions. In 1990, I proposed the elimination of these positions and contracting for these services. At that time, the Health Committee reinstated these positions with the understanding that we would reduce the size of this staff through attrition. I believe we should keep a "core staff" of Home Health Aides because this allows us a certain amount of flexibility in the administration of this program. Our Home Health Aides are dedicated employees who are dependable and give quality care to many of our most chronically ill residents. Also, with the recently enacted extension of unemployment benefits, the

proposed savings (\$31,000) are not likely to occur this year. This objection would avoid six layoffs. I respectfully request that the Legislature reconsider the deletion of five full time and two part time Home Health Aides.

The Health Department is a good example of how difficult it is to cut County Budget. In total, the Legislature recommended \$104,000 in cuts, but this saved only \$3,100 in property tax support.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mr. Pazzaglini to override Objection #5. Following debate, Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mr. Seeley to call the question. Carried by the following: Ayes-17; Nays-0; Absent-2 (Coffey, Yeager). Objection #5 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-12; Nays-5 (Kavulich, Malley, Pasquale, Schofield, Shafer); Absent-2 (Coffey, Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 6. Restore Ombudsman Position

Department: Social Services
Division: Central Administration
Pages: 386, 388, 389, 390

<u>Budget Lines</u>	<u>Executive Appropriation</u>	<u>Legislative Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Exec. Object. Add/(Delete)</u>
1000	\$395,912	<\$34,128>	\$38,316*
8010	5,838	<556>	624*
8030	31,582	<2,611>	3,555*
8040	9,225	<1,109>	1,245*
8050	320	<20>	20
8060	34,010	<1,156>	1,156
0308	\$3,985,654	<42,634>	3,587
0392	4,886,917	<52,147>	16,619

*Legislative amendment erroneously ascribed some of these costs to Administrative Services Division.

OBJECTION: This position provides necessary liaison, so long lacking, between Social Services and the public. This liaison has proved valuable to the general public, County staff and New York staff.

The purpose of my objection to the deletion of the Ombudsman position is to offer a

compromise. If this objection is sustained, the Department of Social Services will bring forth a new position's duties statement to restructure with the deleted Management Associate; combining both positions. This restructuring would allow the department to have what it needs for day to day operations, would avoid a layoff and would still reduce the number of Administrative positions at DSS. The net County support for this position is \$14,710. I respectfully request that the Legislature reconsider the deletion of the Ombudsman position and accept this compromise proposal.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mr. Warner to override Objection #6. Objection #6 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-16; Nays-1 (Pasquale); Absent-2 (Coffey, Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 7. Restore Position of Clerk

Department: Social Services
 Division: Administrative Services
 Page(s): 390, 392, 393

<u>Budget Lines</u>	<u>Executive Appropriation</u>	<u>Legislative Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Exec. Object. Add/(Delete)</u>
1000	\$ 647,253	<\$52,659>	\$13,098
8010	9,225	<858>	213
8030	50,669	<4,028>	1,002
8040	13,379	<1,711>	426
8050	660	<40>	20
8060	57,304	<2,312>	1,156
8063	1,950	<195>	65
0308	3,985,654	<42,634>	4,716
0392	4,886,917	<52,147>	5,768

OBJECTION: I object to the deletion of the Clerk's position because this position coordinates the mandated Transportation Services of Medicaid and makes sure that the least costly method of transportation is provided. If this position is not restored, it will mean that the Medical Transportation Unit will have had 33 1/3 percent reduction in staff since 1989. During this same period, the number of prior approvals

has increased 40 percent to an anticipated 29,600 in 1992.

The major functions of the position is the prior approval and coordination of all medical transportation for Medicaid recipients. These essential duties include: checking for client eligibility, completing prior approval forms/assigning prior approval numbers which allow the vendors to be paid, and checking for medical statements of need. The significance of this work is highlighted by the fact that after these procedures were implemented, there was in the first full year alone, a 42 percent reduction in requested claims and a cost savings of over \$110,000.

We need staff to make sure that we continue to provide the least costly transportation services because it saves us money. The net savings to the County is \$5,496 -- this will probably be offset by loses due to increased transportation costs. I respectfully request that the Legislature reconsider the deletion of the Clerk position.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mrs. Hudak to override Objection #7. Objection #7 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-12; Nays-5 (Kavulich, Malley, Pasquale, Schofield, Shafer); Absent-2 (Coffey, Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 8. Restore MMIS/Medicaid Funds

Department: Social Services
Division: DSS Programs
Page(s): 414

Budget	Executive	Legislative	Exec. Object.
<u>Lines</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>
4567	\$16,100,000	<\$300,000>	\$300,000

OBJECTION: The purpose of my objection is that Medicaid is one of the fastest growing mandated costs in County Government. If you underestimate this expense or underbudget for it, you will still have to pay the bills. NYSAC has recently reported that Medicaid expenses will increase on an average of 17 percent over last year. Our projections are right in line with these projections. Given the current economic conditions, this is no time to underfund the Medicaid budget, especially since we are mandated to pay these costs in any case. Underestimating expenses

will create a budget gap which will have to be made up in the following year's budget. Consider this; if you are \$300,000 short in 1992, you have to make that up in the following years budget -- the actual impact is \$600,000. I respectfully request that you reconsider this action and return the \$300,000 cut from the MMIS budget line.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mr. Lindsey to override Objection #8. Following debate, Mrs. Wagstaff moved, seconded by Mr. Howard to call the question. Carried by the following: Ayes-17; Nays-0; Absent-2 (Coffey, Yeager). Objection #8 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-13; Nays-4 (Kavulich, Malley, Pasquale, Shafer); Absent-2 (Coffey, Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 9. Restore Wellness Coordinator Position

Department:Risk and Insurance
Division:Risk Management
Pages:167-169

<u>Budget</u> <u>Lines</u>	<u>Executive</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Legislative</u> <u>Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Exec. Object.</u> <u>Add/(Delete)</u>
1000	\$144,019	<\$21,770>	\$21,770
8010	2,047	<355>	355
8030	10,991	<1,665>	1,665
8040	2,902	<708>	708
8050	100	<20>	20
8060	7,101	<1,156>	1,156
8063	0	<65>	65

OBJECTION:The purpose of my objection is that the Wellness Coordinator's position is an employee benefit. As such, the Legislature should have made provision to provide the service through some other mechanism. The loss of this benefit has to be negotiated. Since both the employee and all the bargaining units are affected, I believe we cannot sustain the Legislature's action in the likely event that we are taken to arbitration.

I believe this position saves the County money by keeping people healthy. IBM began a Wellness Program and have documented savings on their health care costs. We too, see savings in the area of Workers Compensation and

Health Insurance.

Health care costs for County employees have increased steadily each year. Medical and prescription costs exceeded \$6.5 million in 1990 alone. The Employee Wellness Program, as it is currently structured, with a full-time Coordinator, is one of the most important cost-containment programs the County has in place. SIEBA is projecting that the County's medical claims will be \$200,000 less than last year, while other SIEBA clients are seeing a seven percent increase. This amounts to a savings of thousands of dollars. We need to continue this trend by providing a full-time health promotion/disease prevention program for our employees. We cannot afford to weaken the program by increasing the responsibilities of the positions to the Safety Specialist, nor can we compromise the safety of County workers by diluting the focus of the Safety Specialist to include health promotion.

Reducing health expenditures is a fiscal necessity for all businesses. Broome County has distinguished itself as a leader in this area and regularly advises local businesses and surrounding Counties on how to duplicate our success. We have successfully lowered medical claims, including an 11 percent reduction in claims for back problems, and have substantially increased our utilization of the Employee Assistance Program. There is no valid reason to disrupt an important employee benefit that is saving the County money.

In the coming months, we will be renegotiating health benefits will all of the County's bargaining units. If the Legislature wishes to delete this benefit, pass a resolution and we will so negotiate. Once again, this objection would avoid a layoff. I respectfully request that the Legislature reconsider the deletion of the Wellness Coordinator's position.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mr. Moppert to override Objection #9. Following debate, Mr. Warner moved, seconded by Mr. Pasquale to call the question. Carried by the following: Ayes-18; Nays-0; Absent-1 (Yeager). Objection #9 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-13; Nays-5 (Coffey, Kavulich, Malley, Pasquale, Warner); Absent-1 (Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 10.Restore Other Operational Expenses

Department:Executive
Division:Solid Waste

Page(s):446

Budget <u>Lines</u>	Executive <u>Appropriation</u>	Legislative <u>Add/(Delete)</u>	Exec. Object. <u>Add/(Delete)</u>
4449	\$650,661	<\$200,000>	\$200,000

OBJECTION:The purpose of my objection is that this "cut" may require the division to close the landfill on Saturdays and will cost the County more money than is cut. Many people and most haulers use the landfill on Saturday. For our residents, closing on Saturdays would be an inconvenience, but for our haulers it will be a very real economic hardship. In addition, this cut will cause the County to lose seven valuable weeks of capacity at the landfill and end up costing the County \$434,870 in lost revenues at the landfill. This cut is tantamount to shooting oneself in the foot. I respectfully request that you reconsider this proposed cut and return the \$200,000 to this Budget line.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mr. Pasquale to override Objection #10. Objection #10 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-14; Nays-4 (Coffey, Kavulich, Malley, Shafer); Absent-1 (Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 11. Restore Fees for Services

Department:Executive
Division:Solid Waste
Page(s):449

Budget <u>Lines</u>	Executive <u>Appropriation</u>	Legislative <u>Add/(Delete)</u>	Exec. Object. <u>Add/(Delete)</u>
0070	\$6,102,002	<\$819,052>	\$819,052

OBJECTION:I object to the Legislative action to remove funds set aside for future closure costs at the Landfill. The concept of an enterprise fund is to capture all of the costs associated with the activity and charge this to the current users. This allows the fund to remain current at all times. More importantly, you are not mortgaging your childrens future with hidden tax increases for which they will receive no benefit. By under estimating these costs, you shift the cost from the current users to an

already overburdened property taxpayer. The \$819,052 which was cut because the committee thought it was for groundwater remediation is simply not the case. Groundwater remediation was removed from the Tip fee calculation in May of 1991. The Division made a presentation to the Environmental Committee and distributed to all Legislators which specified all of the cost elements of closure and long term maintenance and clearly groundwater remediation was not an element of the Tip fee. I respectfully request that the Legislature restore the \$819,052 to the budget.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mrs. Greenmun to override Objection #11. Following debate, Mr. Warner moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to call the question. Carried by the following: Ayes-18; Nays-0; Absent-1 (Yeager). Objection #11 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-15; Nays-3 (Coffey, Malley, Pasquale); Absent-1 (Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 12.Restore Additional Salary Savings Recommendation

Department:Special Objects of Expense
Division: N/A
Page(s): 518

Budget	Executive	Legislative	Exec. Object.
<u>Lines</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>
1960	<\$750,000>	<\$500,000>	\$500,000

OBJECTION:I object to the increase in proposed salary savings.

The proposed figure <\$750,000> is based upon historical trends to include typical turnover and retirements as well as FICA. The addition of \$500,000 to this line has not been documented or verified.

There is no provision for the effect of lost revenue due to reimbursement or income generation. Approximately 45 percent of all personnel costs in the General Funds are reimbursed (my recommendation is actually a gross amount of \$1,360,000).

Also, the early retirement program and the continuation of the recession will reduce turnover rates. The early retirement program was designed to attract

now, those who would become eligible for retirement over the next several years. This program has succeeded and this budget already incorporates these savings through reductions in early retirement positions.

Recession increases insecurity and reduces alternate employment opportunities; in turn, this reduces turnover. Further, the job reclassification and salary enhancements to health positions has decreased the salary inequities between County and outside salaries, further decreasing turnover. Also, the systematic reduction of the County's workforce (outside of Corrections and Mental Health) has reduced the pool of positions.

This increase in required savings will result in under budgeting for Personal Services. Over estimating savings and/or revenues or under budgeting expenses creates a budget gap which must be made up in the following years budget. I do not believe any of us want the County to have to go through another budget crises. This action could have serious consequences on future budgets. I respectfully request that the Legislature reconsider their increase in projected savings in Personal Services.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mr. Seeley to override Objection #12. Following debate, Mr. Moppert moved, seconded by Mrs. Wagstaff to call the question. Carried by the following: Ayes-18; Nays-0; Absent-1 (Yeager). Objection #12 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-15; Nays-3 (Coffey, Malley, Pasquale); Absent-1 (Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 13. Restore Reserve for Uncollected Property Tax

Department: All
Division: N/A
Pages: A-10

Budget	Executive	Legislative	Exec. Object.
<u>Lines</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>
A-1	\$1,600,000	<\$250,000>	\$250,000

OBJECTION:I object to the decrease in the allowance for uncollected property taxes. The following statistics represent the amount budgeted for this item versus the actual loss of property tax revenue.

<u>Years</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
1989	\$ 150,000	\$1,060,794
1990	250,000	2,204,682
1991	500,000	2,500,000*
1992	\$ 1,600,000	2,750,000*

*Estimated

I think you will agree that this was a conservative estimate in the first place. To reduce the estimate by \$250,000 really underestimates this potential revenue loss and, given the local economy, cannot be justified. Again, here is an area where we can compromise. I propose that we agree to joint forecasting of this expense in future budgets. I respectfully request that the Legislature reconsider the reduction in funds set aside for uncollected taxes.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mr. Lindsey to override Objection #13. Objection #13 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-16; Nays-2 (Coffey, Malley); Absent-1 (Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 14. Reduce Nanticoke Landfill Remediation

Department:Capital Improvement Program
 Division:Executive/Division of Solid Waste
 Page(s):541

<u>Budget Lines</u>	<u>Executive Appropriation</u>	<u>Legislative Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Exec. Object. Add/(Delete)</u>
M-124A	\$4,500,000	<\$4,000,000>	\$500,000

OBJECTION:This is a highly complex project which requires substantial amounts of money to be spent for "well abandonment" and QA/QC testing. The results of these activities could force us to spend well over the funds remaining in these accounts. Consequently, I prefer we have at least a ten percent contingency set aside for this project. I respectfully request that the Legislature reconsider the reduction in landfill closure costs.

The County Executive on November 25, 1991 requested that Objection #14 be removed in that he had ..."been assured that the Legislature will provide a ten percent contingency fund for this capital project." The County Attorney then ruled that Objection #14 had been improperly presented to the County Legislature. The original action by the County Legislature remains intact.

OBJECTION NO. 15.Restore Biostabilization/Bird Mitigation

Department:Capital Improvement Program
Division:Executive/Division of Solid Waste
Page(s) 541

Budget	Executive	Legislative	Exec. Object.
<u>Lines</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Add/(Delete)</u>
M-21	\$3,187,500	<\$3,187,500>	\$3,187,500

OBJECTION:I object to this reduction because it is part of our overall bird mitigation efforts at the landfill. Again, here is an area where we can compromise. We have enough funds in our existing budget to complete five months of bird mitigation activities. I will only bond for \$1,325,000 of the proposed \$3,187,500 in biostabilization/bird mitigation funds. This will add seven months and allow Cornell University at least one full year upon which to base their analysis. If this method of bird mitigation proves useful, I will return to the Legislature for bond approval to continue. I respectfully request that the Legislature restore the authorization for biostabilization/bird mitigation to the Capital Improvement Budget.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to override Objection #15. Objection #15 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-17; Nays-1, (Coffey); Absent-1, (Yeager).

OBJECTION NO. 16.Restore Funds for Government Consolidation Activities.

Department: Contractual Agencies
Division: N/A
Pages: 525

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<u>Budget</u> <u>Lines</u>	<u>Executive</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Legislative</u> <u>Add/(Delete)</u>	<u>Exec. Object.</u> <u>Add/(Delete)</u>
5013	\$150,000	<\$150,000>	\$150,000

OBJECTION:I object to the deletion of funds for Government Consolidation activities. These funds would be used to finance the implementation of consolidation of our local justice courts, County-wide purchasing, the development of a County-wide sewer system and the establishment of the Council of Government. We need to continue our efforts to streamline and consolidate governments and these funds will allow us to do that. I believe we need to stop talking about consolidation and begin the process of implementation. I respectfully request that you reconsider the deletion of these funds.

Mr. Bielecki moved, seconded by Mr. Seeley to override Objection #16. Objection #16 was overridden by the following vote: Ayes-17; Nays-1 (Pasquale); Absent-1 (Yeager).

Mr. Moppert moved, seconded by Mr. Pasquale to reschedule the December 5, 1991 regular legislative session to December 12, 1991. Motion carried by the following: Ayes-18; Nays-0; Absent-1 (Yeager).

Mr. Augustini moved, seconded by Mr. Pasquale to adjourn to the call of the Clerk. Carried.