

1 MR. SLICHER: Yes, to this extent. By the  
2 time the budget is printed, we can generally get an  
3 estimate from the Department of Education on their current  
4 budget which would indicate that they are going to have  
5 maybe a million or two million surplus. Now, the figures  
6 for the budget going to the legislature to a great extent  
7 are based on the current budget plus their estimates for  
8 the next year.

9 Now, if they know they are going to have a  
10 million and a half or two million surplus in the current  
11 budget, this automatically implies they've got too large a  
12 budget going in for the next year. Now, that was my point,  
13 that we cannot do that and the legislature cannot do that.

14 MR. SACHS: Right.

15 MR. RENNIE: I believe there has been an  
16 instance where they voluntarily, by letter, reduced their  
17 budget before the legislature reduced their request, and  
18 on that basis, it was reduced. Of course, if they refuse  
19 to do that, I guess they would be stuck. The budget  
20 couldn't be changed, that is, in the mandatory items, after  
21 it was in the legislature.