

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 637A, 637

enhancement pieces to make sure that the centralized system will work and there is a figure in there for the study that we approved that would tell us how we will go about doing centralized collection. And I would be glad to answer any questions.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Baker would move to amend with AM1885. (AM1885 is found on page 2250 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Baker, you're recognized to open on your motion to amend LB 637A.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. This amendment, if you'll have some patience, I'm not as good at this as Senator Wehrbein, but we...I didn't think when we passed (LB) 637 on to Final Reading we were anticipating funding these 14 customer service representatives. We were going to use local people. I hope Senator Bohlke's listening too. I...that wasn't the plan, as I understood it. In the first place, we're going to have this study directed by the Legislature, so what I'm proposing in this amendment is to cut that 200, it's in Section 3 of the bill, page 2, line 18. It's on page 2, Section 3, line 18. It strikes the figure 2,308,507 dollars and inserts 2,034,342, the difference being the \$274,165 of General Fund money found in the middle of the fiscal note down there that is going to the 14 customer service representatives. That's all that changes and that was proposed to be spent in the last half of Fiscal Year 2001, so it's down the road quite a ways anyway. And I...Senator Brown's statement, this was a bill to make sure the system will work, if I was sure that this would make the system work I wouldn't be so apprehensive about some of this, but I'm looking at past performance and complaints that I had about HHS and I'm saying, my, I don't think this guarantees anything. So my amendment proposes to take that \$274,165 out that is...is targeted to the 14 customer service representatives, and HHS can come back to us next year and...well, first place, we're going to have this study done and see where we are, but I just am not willing to make out a check right now to Health and Human Services on this matter when we