

there is not game playing saying that it is incomplete or it isn't complete. An applicant will know exactly what is wrong with his application so he can make some corrections and provide the information that is required. Another amendment, some of the more substantive amendments and I can answer, I will be happy to discuss any of these if you would like but I would like to go to some of the more controversial ones. Amendment #24 on the second page is an amendment that relates to substantial change in health services and it deletes the following language: "Substantial change in a health service also means the deletion, reduction or modification in the scope or type of an existing health service provided by the health care facility or the health maintenance organization.", and then it adds language "except that nothing in this section shall require a health care facility to continue to offer the health service after the health care facility determines that it is economically unfeasible to do so." This modifies the definition of substantial change and deletes the requirement that a modification or reduction has to be reviewed and has to be approved by the State Department of Health. This is important because a modification could be anything and the purpose of the certificate of need legislation is to control health care cost and to review capital construction and a number of other items, not to review each individual modification. It was felt by the committee that this would result in some additional cost and additional paperwork and really would not result in any substantial review. So that is a major amendment. LB 27, or excuse me, amendment #27, this one, this amendment, the purpose of it is to allow certain projects to be granted nonsubstantive review status and the language deleted by the committee amendment would have required the Department of Health to approve the correction of all code deficiencies. Basically if you have...this amendment deals with emergencies as far as meeting fire codes and other types of things are concerned and you would be given nonsubstantive review so you would not have to file a complete application with respect to certificate of need.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cullan, you have two minutes left on your original ten minutes.

SENATOR CULLAN: There are a good number of additional amendments and I think the best thing probably would be to respond to questions that you have on the committee amendments, due to the lack of time. Some of the changes that the committee made, some of the issues that we addressed include whether or not doctors offices are going to be included in the review and the committee chose to be more restrictive than federal