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LB 389

referring to the State of Minnesota? Or is this where you got the idea for this program is the State of Minnesota?

SENATOR WESELY: That is the primary state, although there are a number of states that have a similar type of program.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Okay, but you had referred to before in the discussion that you got this information and it is patterned after the State of Minnesota.

SENATOR WESELY: Well, it's one of the states, yes.

SENATOR HABERMAN: I have a letter and it is on its way up here from the State of Minnesota that states the cost did not decrease when they put this program in. So I am saying this in answer to what you answered to Senator Lamb a few minutes ago that you anticipate a decrease. In that state the cost in this area did not decrease.

SENATOR WESELY: I don't know if I said....what I am talking about is, as Senator Rumery talked about, is the savings that we are talking about is not spending as much to help these people by having this program than another.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Well, but in answer to Senator Lamb, you said the Welfare Department anticipated that there would be a decrease in the cost under this program, and I am saying that in the Minnesota program there was no decrease in the cost.

SENATOR WESELY: In testimony on this bill last year the Welfare Department indicated that this bill may pay for itself in its cost savings. And I think that that is an estimate that they felt with the tightness of the bill and the focus of the bill they could do that. But, again, it depends. Every program is different and this is different than Minnesota.

SENATOR HABERMAN: I just asked you a question, and....

SENATOR WESELY: And I am answering your question.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Thank you.

SENATOR WESELY: It's going to save money.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Stoney, do you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. Speaker, a question of Senator Wesely,