

additions and capital expenditures and what have you that would go without any review, and that above that amount would come under the review process of the certificate of need. \$600,000 is what Senator Cullan would like to have and that is tremendously excessive I believe. If we thought here about not reviewing budget appropriations of less than \$600,000 why we would be laughed out of this Legislature and the people would recall us all. But that is exactly what we are trying to do with this bill. We are trying to say that this sort of expenditure is not that significant and you are only really talking about real money until about \$600,000 and above. I know I have talked to some of the hospital people and they say, well, what are you getting all excited about, that is not too much money, \$600,000, we are not talking about that much. That is the real serious side of it that they take and I think that they are absolutely wrong. The people of this state know what \$600,000 is. It is a lot of money and I think that it is too much of an increase to go from \$100,000 to \$600,000. I am asking that we reduce it back down to \$300,000, the minimum threshold. I also ask that the indexing portion of the bill also be taken out which automatically indexes the minimum threshold. Right now there is no indexing. It was a \$100,000 when we started in '79, it stays at \$100,000 until this body decides to raise it, and I think that is fine. When we decide through the process of this Legislature that we need to increase the minimum, then that's the way it ought to be increased, not an automatic indexing increase every year or every so often to up that minimum threshold. That would be nice for the providers but it would be bad for the consumers because it would automatically without any review of the Legislature increase that minimum amount. Now I think maybe \$300,000 some people have talked to me may be too high as it is, and perhaps \$200,000, \$250,000 would be more reasonable. If you recall in 1979 we got into a big debate on this floor because Senator Cullan wanted to have the minimum at \$150,000 and some of us wanted to have it at \$100,000, and I mean we fought a great deal of time over the question of \$50,000 which is still a lot of money. But we are talking here about \$500,000 and we are not getting all that concerned about it which is really incredible in my mind the change that has taken place in the last three years. So what we are saying is \$300,000 is the minimum threshold. I ask for your support for the amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I oppose the Wesley amendment. Again I think the