

we had pending that portion of the committee amendments, Mr. President, the last committee amendment that would involve basically Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 and when we left the bill, Mr. President, there was pending a motion from Senator Beutler and that motion is on page 1362 of the Journal. I believe it had something to do with Crime Victims Reparations Board.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, let me refresh your memory as to where we were on this particular amendment. Senator Warner, in the committee amendments, had a provision whereby income guidelines and standards were now to be applied to the Crime Victims Reparations Board, that is not only would they have to qualify as to types of crimes and all the other criteria that exists in the statute but they would also have to qualify and meet the income standard. My amendment eliminates Senator Warner's amendment and essentially eliminates altogether the Crime Victims Reparations Board and you may recall that yesterday I pointed out to you that for example, last year their budget was just over a \$102 thousand and that they paid out to actual crime victims around \$50 thousand, which means that the administrative cost of administering that program is up around 50%, \$50 thousand to give out \$50 thousand. This year they are planning \$120 thousand which means \$60 thousand to give out \$60 thousand. They have an executive director as I understand it and a couple of investigators. Now, think for a moment what happens if you add income standards and income criteria to all the other criteria that exists. That means they have to have yet another investigator or a portion of another investigator which means that their administrative costs are going to go up some, maybe \$5,000, maybe more so that instead of having a 50% administrative cost you are going to have a 55% or a 60% administrative cost. Now to me that is just absolutely ridiculous. I asked Senator Johnson earlier, what about this Medicaid? What are the administrative costs on that particular program and he said he thought somewhere around 6% or 7%, you know, at the outside no more than 10% and yet we're allowing to exist a program that is incredibly expensive and not justified. Not only, you may recall, that I discussed yesterday that it was not only not justified economically but it is not justified philosophically. The crime victims, if they need it, can be benefitted by the Department of Welfare. If they don't need it, then it is my philosophy that they should be treated the same as somebody who is stricken by lightning or somebody who suffers a bad disease. We need to help them but we don't need to treat them any differently than people with those misfortunes are