

SENATOR WESELY: That's correct, yes, Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Okay, the second question...the second question I have for you or Senator Lynch is can you find the expertise of the people that you have listed in here because I think we have some bills coming later on to deal with the, you know, with the health...with the health care and nursing and so forth that you have listed and how does that salary that you have listed there compare with what they're making right now?

SENATOR WESELY: I think that shouldn't be any problem but the budget was put together by the Health Department, they know the salary levels. They have had to hire these people and so I feel very comfortable with that.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Okay. My third observation and it was...deals with an issue that I have a great deal of personal feeling with. Are we starting something like we did when ESUs, the Educational Service Units that came in back a few years ago before my time and I...and it's just, you know, they were supposed to do a job and it...all it did is add another layer, you know, to the educational things that...and so that is my...that's a concern that I have in the back of my mind. Are we just starting something that starts out kind of like a little puppy? We were talking about dog bills earlier (laughter) and it ends up in...

SENATOR WESELY: (inaudible) dog.

SENATOR HARTNETT: ...in a large dog. So are we starting it out...and I shouldn't use the dog at this...because I see where you people are coming, maybe the dog is the wrong connotation. But I just am concerned that we're starting out with a small budget figure and it's going to grow and, you know, so forth. That's my concern. You don't have to answer that, Senator Wesely, but...

SENATOR WESELY: I would like to, if you don't mind. Could I respond to that?

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yeah, sure.

SENATOR WESELY: Because it's a legitimate question. The ESUs are local in nature, created by us, but still local. This would be an adjunct of the State Department of Health funded by state