

out, let me see, you'd take out the rest of the...Three would be split out. Okay. You'd do one, two and four, and then number three would be considered separately. So, one, two and four deal with the thresholds, number three of the amendment deals with the list. And that's how I'd like to separate and divide the question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Wesely, it occurs to the Chair that is divisible. One, two and four separated from three.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay.

SPEAKER BARRETT: That being the case, which would you prefer to address first?

SENATOR WESELY: One, two and four.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One, two and four, that speaks to the thresholds.

SENATOR WESELY: Right, um-huh. Should I go ahead then, Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, proceed.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. Speaker, the amendments deal with the threshold issue, and if you have the blue sheet I've passed around, it shows the current law, what was recommended by a task force last year on this issue as to the thresholds, the recommendations under the original LB 429 and the current level under LB 429. What we've done, essentially, on the threshold is gone from 577,000 right now on capital expenditures, to, under the original bill would have gone to 1.5 million. And the bill now, as amended, would have it at 1.2 million, and I don't touch that with this amendment. That is something we've agreed to between Senator Baack and the hospitals and myself, and that would essentially double the current threshold, obviously more than I'd like, but a reasonable increase nevertheless. The annual operating increase would go from \$284,000 right now to \$550,000, as was proposed in the original bill, and that hasn't been changed and won't be changed by this amendment. The major medical equipment is currently \$400,000. The task force that had been formed said it should only go to 500,000. The bill currently, and as introduced, would have raised it to \$1 million. This amendment would change that back down to