

Some of the monies that were requested in their budget were appropriated by the Appropriations Committee. There was an expenditure, I think, for \$13,000 that provided for some carpeting. This request was also in there but it was not part of the budget as it was laid out. The office is currently using some dividers that are borrowed. They need to return those. The first part of the amendment would allow for the renovation to be completed, the room dividers to be bought and them to be able to function in an orderly fashion again. The second part of the amendment that I offer deals with the two staff positions that would help relieve the backlog and delay in processing of the information with regard to the claims that have been filed and the number of...excuse me, the reports that have been filed and the number of petitions with regard to the claims that have to be addressed by the Workers' Compensation Court. The impact there would be \$39,228 for the first part of the...the first year of the biennium and then \$33,713 for the 1991 year. This represents the cost of two clerical staff positions. So it would be a total sum in this amendment of the 25,000 for the room dividers, 39,228 for '89-90, and 33,713 for 1991. Of course, the addition of the staff people would be an ongoing cost that would have to be budgeted from here on out, so it would not be just a one-time impact although the \$25,000 would be. The second handout that I gave you, the General Fund income prepared...compared to appropriation, the first sheet, is...shows there for your review the premium tax income that flows into the General Fund from the workers' compensation insurance. It shows for the last five years what that premium tax income has been, what the General Fund appropriation has been to the Workers' Compensation Court and the percentage of the appropriation as opposed to the revenue that has been brought in. It shows that the premium tax is up, the percentage of the budget to the income has gone down in the recent three years. What has happened though is that the number of reports that have been filed has gone up and the number of petitions that have followed that has also increased dramatically. The second page that we have there shows that the workload over the last seven years has gone up considerably, whereas the staff over the last seven years has pretty much remained constant, although last year we did appropriate funds for an additional judge in the court which is very much needed; the staff to go along which was part of the budget request is also very much needed. The need there is that, based on the reports that have been filed with regard to accidents and injuries in the work place, it is extremely difficult for the staff, as it currently