

so. My understanding is that any bill that is on Final Reading that establishes an appropriation has a two-year appropriation. At the conclusion of that two years, unless the bill...substantive language sunsets, as this does not, then it is...the department administering the program goes before the Appropriations Committee with a recommendation for a funding level. The Appropriations Committee then makes a determination as to what they think is an appropriate level. That comes to the Legislature. Any member of the Legislature can amend it upward or downward or out and the Legislature then in the 1991 session...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR WITHEM: ...will pass their appropriation. I will continue this on on my time if we need to.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Withem, your light is the next light. Would you care to continue?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yeah, I would be happy to. So it is not an automatic ongoing appropriation but it will be in the department's budgetary request as to what level they would need. There are some programs that are on statute that the Appropriations Committee, I believe, has recommended zero appropriation level for. This could conceivably be one of those although I would doubt it. I would hope not. If the...and this is my time now, I have been quizzed by three senators, Senators Haberman, Moore and Crosby. If any of them want to use some of my time to continue the discussion, I would be happy to. And I think Senator Haberman may have a question so I would yield the beginning of my time to Senator Haberman.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Yes, Senator Withem, so I can explain what you just said, if a piece of legislation has the proper language and the funds in there and it's passed, that's for two years, and at the end of two years the Appropriations Committee has to appropriate those funds and if they appropriate those funds, then we, as a body, try to take it out or just leave it in there. So the first two years is, you might say, home free without the Appropriations Committee being involved in it and then the next biennial budget they deal with it. Is that what you said?