

committee would focus on what can we do to pass legislation that would prevent this in the future and remember that it is not a criminal investigation. If criminal activities are uncovered, then it's a duty for them to turn that information over to the State Patrol and the appropriate authorities. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Baack, please, followed by Senator Wesely.

SENATOR BAACK: Yes, Mr. President and members, if you would have asked me a couple of months ago or after the initial phase of the investigations that the committee was doing I would have said, no, we don't need any more money to continue. Not that there weren't plenty of allegations and plenty of things that had been uncovered by the committee in their investigation up to that point, but we had no corroboration for those allegations. Since that time we have come up with a lot of evidence that does corroborate some of the things that we saw in the early allegations and I think for us to stop now would be a big mistake. I know that we have turned certain of the certain amounts of evidence over to the Attorney General's Office and also to the U.S. Attorney's Office and because there are certain crimes in there that probably need to be prosecuted and need to be checked into more thoroughly by those people. But I think what I have seen through the whole process is, is that after you view some of the things that we have seen on the tapes and after you see how the system has reacted or, in this case, not reacted to what is going on, I don't see how that you could view any of these things or look at the things that we have and not have shaken to the very foundation, your belief that the system does work. That is what has happened to me. I'm not so sure the system does work in this case and I'm not so sure that we don't have a group of citizens out in this state that our system doesn't work for. And the citizens I am talking about in this case are citizens that don't necessarily have a strong voice in this state. They are kind of the left out citizens of this state and I don't think we can leave them out. I think that we need to be very careful as we look at this and to see why the system did not react as it was supposed to react when certain allegations were brought forward and that is what we have seen. We have seen that the system did not work. Supposedly, the people that were supposed to be working on this, investigating all of these things had looked at all the same things we had looked at and they said, there is nothing to it, forget it; there is nothing to it; we don't find anything; there is no