

found on page 249, simply provides adjustment from the 12 million dollars down to 7.2, the difference being that last year, in 525, there were 4.8 million dollars of General Fund revenues suggested for reimbursement to physicians and to hospitals. It simply does that. I would try to answer any questions you might have. But I would ask for your support to at least return it for further discussion and debate regarding this amendment, at which time I'd be happy to answer any questions you might have.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Is there discussion on the Lynch motion to return the bill to Select File for purposes of an amendment? Is there discussion? Seeing none, those in favor of that motion please vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nay, Mr. President, on the motion to return the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The motion prevails, the bill is returned. Senator Lynch, please.

SENATOR LYNCH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I think I described to you in some, I hope, adequate form the purpose of the bill and why it's important. I know it will and should take its place as priorities exist for the spending of any state funds. I think it would also be fair because of the obvious need and the importance of it, though, to be given the chance to take its place with those priorities. And so I would hope you would allow it to proceed. I'd like to point out something without being asked, because there is some concern, especially as it applies to psychiatric care for people. This bill does provide for long-term psychiatric care. On page 10, under Section 8, there are two definitions. Number one, on page 16, says "emergency inpatient and outpatient medical, surgical, psychiatric and hospital care". Although line 2, found on page 18, says "medically necessary inpatient and outpatient medical, surgical and hospital services", I'm told and understand that without saying it, even though it may seem silent, long-term psychiatric care is, in fact, a medical service and, in fact, considered as part of that medical necessary inpatient care. And I thought I should make that clear and answer that question even before it may be asked. I want to point out, talking to you about the costs, but as far as Medicaid is concerned, this state spends about \$260 million a year on Medicaid, and we're very grateful for that. Of that,