

that is being requested as a deficit appropriation to the completion of LB 340, which would be the Indian remains burial goods bill that we passed last year, and I guess, in essence, there are a series of questions I want to ask on it, and I don't know which Appropriations Committee member will be doing it. I think Senator Langford might be, so I will kind of give her some advance warning. I am going to be asking some questions on the deficit appropriations budget itself so that I am clear what is going on on it, and I would suspect at some point that I will be asking the question to the body as a whole about the funding of the Historical Society at this point in time in any manner. And I guess one of the things I have as the dilemma is, obviously, LB 340 is not being...the Historical Society, to word it in a way that is as nice as possible, is not complying with the intent of the Legislature in LB 340. There is a lawsuit that is pending. The lawsuit, to my general understanding, is saying that, in essence, there is a series of questions and doubts within the Historical Society of how much it needs to comply with certain state statutes since there is some question that it may not be, in fact, a state agency. Now that brings forth the question that I believe in statute we refer to it as a state agency. Certainly, it is Agency 54 on our appropriations budget. But if, in fact, there is some doubt in the Historical Society that it is, in fact, a state agency, then the question comes to mind is should the state then be funding a nonstate agency? And I think there is a series of questions that at some point might...the body may want to at least address. For my part, for the most...in the beginning, however, I would like to ask Senator Langford a series of questions and I understand the difficulties, Senator Langford, of having a senator come and ask specific things on a budget that is very, very complex and very, very large, and so if there is someone else or if the staff member there can help, that certainly would be acceptable. Number one, could, Senator Langford, could you just briefly, if you would, since it is on my time, could you briefly explain what the Historical Society, the reasons before the \$20,049 that they are actually requesting as a deficit appropriation?

SENATOR LANGFORD: Well, they need some more lab technicians. Remember, they have to do all this work in a year, so they need some more lab technicians, office clerk, photographers, particularly, and a photo assistant, plus equipment, probably film, supplies, and then computer costs, so that they have a complete list of all the materials they will turn over.