

I spoke with Senator Haberman about this this morning, I had neglected to look at LB 1052 and I, too, was a bit concerned about the inflation that had suddenly hit from 35 to 50, and yet I think the point that Senator Haberman is making here is worth pursuing. I think it's possible you might resolve the problems that apparently plague us by looking at one region, but I wonder. I don't know a lot about organizational development and I think that's what Senator Haberman is suggesting is we might bring somebody in as an expert on management and organizational development and analyze the system and see if there are things we can do to support it better. But I think it's important that we don't do it in such a way that it further demoralizes those people out there on the front lines who are trying to do the job. The turnover is pretty high and the morale is pretty low. And I think the way we do this could either be seen as bashing people who already have a tough job and make it harder on them or we could do it in such a way to figure out where the real problems are. And I have to confess for as much time as I have looked at this agency and some of the concerns I have had that I can't put my finger right on the area yet. I think there is good reason to study this and I would like...and I have great respect for the people that I know that Senator Haberman has letters here from as well. I would like to propose, I guess, if Senator Haberman would be willing, if he would be willing to wait on this until Select File, given the concerns that people are raising here, Senator Wesely saying, gee, you ought to let the Health Committee in on this and look at it statewide. I don't know if anything happens if you do that. I think you have to have a pretty specific study. It may make sense to only do southwest and I'm kind of inclined to think you might learn a lot if you focus the study, as Senator Haberman is doing here. But I think if we're going to get out of this, what we want, and so if we don't find ourselves here next year at the same time continuing to be frustrated, that it might serve us well to work on this a bit between now and Select File and see if we can't truly draft a study that will get us where we want to be. And there is probably a role for the Legislature to play here. I am a little skeptical of an outside consultant. Sometimes you get something and sometimes you don't. And this is a complex enough issue. I would just ask Senator Haberman if he would be willing to work with me and others between now and Select and see we could answer some of these concerns and further refine this a bit.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Was that a question, Senator Scofield?