

Services shall raise it up to at least \$45. I guess the question is, would you be willing possibly some time, maybe on Select File, to discuss the possibility, instead of saying at least \$45, changing that to up to \$45, because...

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Smith, do you yield?

SENATOR SMITH: Yes, I definitely yield. Is that the gist of your question,...

SENATOR MOORE: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: .. of whether or not that I would say that we will leave it to the discretion of the Department of Social Services, so you could say, in other words, "may", and then nothing could happen. Is that what you're saying? Or maybe a dollar increase and I'd be satisfied with that?

SENATOR MOORE: Not so much the discretion of the social services, the discretion of the body. You know, if you'd...if the body is not able to appropriate a million dollars, maybe it would be able to appropriate half a million dollars. The way your bill is written it's either all or nothing. And by language like that, there might be the possibility of, in the end, when all is said and done and the vetoes have come back in June, maybe a half a million dollars would be more possible. And if you'd write the bill with a little more flexibility, we could still address it at least partially in a very needed area. So, I...you and I need...would you be interested in talking about that at all, I guess is my question.

SENATOR SMITH: I'd be glad to visit with you about that, but I'd also like to add, if you don't mind, may I expand upon that a little bit? Something that I didn't tell the rest of the body, and that is that there is now a new directive for the Department of Social Services to provide a \$90 expense or additional personal needs allowance to certain veterans in those kinds of facilities. So, there is a need, at the federal level, they say that we need to expand what we're doing for personal needs. And you would have...you already have a wide range. Right now it ranges from 30 to 90 dollars. And you may have people in one room who are receiving that kind of disparity in what they're getting for personal needs, at this point in time. You could have two people, one receiving \$30 a month, one receiving \$90 a month, shortly. And this is trying to go a