

little bit closer to that, but we thought we were trying to be as conservative as possible. And I would just say that I would be willing to work with you, Senator Moore. But I want everyone in here to know that I think we're going to have to address this as we go down the line, we're going to have some requests for funding, for additional kinds of funding. We're going to have to let everything take its place in line and we're going to have to make some choices. And to me, I don't think that we should continue to say, well those people that are in nursing home situations or in alternative care situations, who are disabled or aged, or handicapped in some way, who can't speak for themselves as well as a lot of other advocacy groups that we have out here, and by the way there are not any lobbyists speaking on behalf of these people. This was brought, over the years, to me by, and Senator Wesely, by the concerns that we saw by those people who actually live in those situations and have to try to put up with it. They're not a strong advocacy group, and so they can't speak as well, so we're here for them for that reason. They need to be heard, too. And so I guess we're just going to have to let everything fall in line and we're going to have to decide what's the most important and who should get it. I will work with you, but I'm still going to tell you that I'm going to press on, as much as possible, for this increase for these people. It's been long coming. Thank you.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Haberman, followed by Senators Crosby and Wesely. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, Senator Smith, will you yield to a couple questions, please.

SENATOR SMITH: Yes, I would be pleased to.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Senator Smith, is the federal increase automatic? If we raise ours, do they automatically raise theirs?

SENATOR SMITH: I think it's contingent, when we have an increase, I suppose, on the total amount of money...our supplements...

SENATOR HABERMAN: Do they...