

SENATOR ROBINSON: Well, what is the total expenditure, at 40?

SENATOR SMITH: At \$40, General Fund is \$438,000, and, let's see, that is in the next fiscal year, and then the following fiscal year it would be \$592,000.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay, thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Is there anyone else who wishes to address this amendment? Seeing none, do you have closing, Senator Smith?

SENATOR SMITH: Well, I would just say in closing that I know I am much closer to elderly concerns having worked all the years I did with them, and I don't know, for those of us that are fortunate enough or those folks that are fortunate enough to have enough resources that they don't have to become a welfare recipient, and they don't have to give up their own dignity and their own opportunity to be an individual making decisions for themselves, who don't have to go into a nursing home situation, and end up with someone else making all the decisions, someone else deciding for them what they can have, what they can't have, and I believe totally that we should give up our Social Security check, but I think that, in all fairness, we have been doing a lot of things here in the last days on education. I think our concern should not only be for the youth of this state, it should be for the elderly also, who have contributed to this state in the past. And if you have an example of someone who has abused or misused the system, you can find that in any program anywhere in the state, and so I would hope that you would not begrudge a little increase, after 10 years, for those people for things like Kleenex, clothing items, other kinds of health care items, and in some cases, if you are a younger disabled person, maybe for a little recreational item, like, you know, a new comb or a magazine or something like that. That is what this money goes for. And so I am asking you to dip down inside yourselves a little bit here and be willing to share with those people on the other end of the spectrum. I think they are as important to the state, itself. They are the ones who contributed in the past and made us be where we are at today. So I'd ask your support for this amendment, please. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Smith. We will now vote on the Smith amendment. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.