

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR ELMER: ...and I wanted to get these things in the record so that the Historical Society would feel a little more inclined to do what's right with these types of very significant properties that they have control of. And thank you for your cooperation, Senator Moore, in answering these questions. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, I would like to answer Senator Smith's questions as best I can at this point. There are three particular...well, actually, there are four waivers now under the Medicaid program, one, the aged and disabled adults and children's waiver which I am told currently is serving 540 people with 200 on a waiting list. So when I gave you the number of 700, I was giving you the amount now being served and the amount generally that they anticipate need to be served but aren't yet being served.. That 200 figure is waiting for services. And the 340 figure that you have, I think, is a prior, previous figure, not a current one. There are 700 people being served under the MR waiver. That's another waiver that's under the Medicaid program. There are six children on a children's waiver being served and that is anticipated to go to 200 under the budget amendment that we're dealing with here. Then there's an additional Katie Beckett waiver program that has an intermittent number of people being served by it. The problem with the aged and disabled program is that there have been inadequate staff to process the waiting list to get these people the services they're entitled to under Medicaid. Medicaid is about a 60/40 match, 40 cents from the state, 60 cents from the federal government, I think money well spent, a program worth pursuing but because of some objection from the previous administration adequate staff are not provided so adequate processing did not occur and so a number...hundreds of people are waiting for services and they expect there would be hundreds more qualified but unaware of the program. There were 750 to 1500 slots available. And it seems to me that your questions about that waiver are appropriate and ought to be addressed through the legislation, that if we've got a program that can help people that is money in this area matched by federal monies, we ought not to be losing that opportunity. So I would like to work with you. But that's the figures I have