

SENATOR ROBINSON: Is that happen...is that happening now? Do you know, in...?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Well, I...I'm aware of at least one testing program that's going on in the northern part of my district. How they're funding that, I assume it's through their...their budget currently, so this would basically supplement what they're doing now.

SENATOR ROBINSON: I guess...I guess I have the same concern that Senator Moore has. Not only the...as it relates...Senator Morrissey, I know he says we ought to spend the money now, but...is Senator Moore here? Senator Moore. I guess as I read the budget, we have around a little over a million dollars right now for anything additional if we...maybe a million to a million and a half...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR ROBINSON: ...if we talk about additional A bills concerning Medicaid expense. And, I don't know, I see nothing wrong with this, but I...I see no reason of doing it unless we have the money to go forward with it. I...I think it's a wasted effort. But, if it's needed, fine. I...I think we either vote it up or vote it down upon...on the money that we think it should have in the program. If not, I...I don't think we need the program until the money's there.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Morrissey.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Madam Speaker and members. Senator Robinson, I don't want to spend the money either, now. I'd rather wait and let my kids do it, but I think maybe the responsible thing for us to do would be to start addressing it right now. Now the money might not be there, but there are ways, innovative ways to raise the money. And we have to get this discussion started, and started now. Now, I don't know if you have any small towns in your district, Senator, but the testing will be done. It is just like Medicaid. It is a federal mandate. Medicaid is not the only federal mandate that we have to address this year. I'm going to...you're going to hear me say this more than once this year. Medicaid is not our only problem, or not our only federal mandate. There's a