

that, you know, Senator Warner has often said the only way to keep a program from growing is never to start it. I think that axiom could be applied to here. The only way to keep the costs of a program from growing is, when it starts to shift from Cash to General, make the decision right then that the state taxpayers should not subsidize that agency, because if you do it now, it's 30,000 now, it's likely to grow. Senator Wesely does make a good argument as to the Athletic Commission that if you go back a decade ago this agency was in trouble, they...well, this agency was not in trouble, they were cash flux, and they returned some money to the General Fund. If we want to make things even we could, if this...presently at the \$30,000, in two more years you would have made that even. So after that point maybe you want to eliminate General Fund. But that's if you're worried about taking money from them then, and we would be even after another two years of General Fund appropriation, that funding gap would have been solved and then it's a net taxpayer cost right then. And so, you know, a lot of states, of our neighboring states, South Dakota, Oklahoma, Colorado and Wyoming do not regulate boxing or wrestling in any way on the state level. Many of our neighbors do it that way. Actually the bill that the Appropriations Committee introduced, modeled our statute after Kansas where they deregulated wrestling, and there still...the locality is actually...they have the state statutes in place for boxing. Local entities actually do the enforcing of those. There is still a statewide...a statewide association that is not a state agency but a volunteer group that sanctions those events. So it is working very well in Kansas. Obviously, if you support Senator Conway's amendment, Missouri and Iowa probably continue to do it like we do it, whereas Minnesota regulates boxing only. So I mean there's a good choice you need to make. I said if you are not willing to punch the button to do away with the agency because it can no longer support itself, then the responsible thing to do is probably to support Senator Conway's amendment. On the other hand, if you agree that, you know, if...if an agency has historically been cash funded, does not have the proper revenues to fund itself, instead of starting down the path of...of...of appropriating General Funds, now is the time to say no. I think now is the time to say no. For that reason I will oppose the Conway amendment. If the Conway amendment fails to get on, I would certainly hope that the body would find the votes to pull that bill out of committee and deal with it that way. So the choice is very clear on what you want to do.