

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I think that's roughly accurate. The main...the main person, I know, that they want to hire right away is...they want to fill this Ombudsman's position, because that is the person that's going to organize and set up for them the Small Business Advisory Board. And then beyond that, I think they envision hiring five or six people, yes.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay. I just want to make it clear what we're doing. Probably a necessary function of state government again, but we've just spent several hundred thousand dollars again for an ongoing program in this area. It takes more office space. We're facing that next year. I just wanted to call your attention to it. What we're doing is probably necessary, but it's going to be increasingly expensive in the future. These are General Funds. It's continuing as we are responsible for this expanding of bureaucracy as we go about many of these programs. I just wanted to make it clear.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Question of Senator Morrissey. Do you know, Senator Morrissey, how much they expect to pay for the Ombudsman position?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Senator Morrissey.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: I can find out, Senator Schmit. I don't have that in my head right now.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, take your time. I might apply for the job later on. (Laughter.)

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Well, you work so well with the public, I'm sure, Senator, that you would be considered.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, Senator Beutler, would you go through the expenditures out of General Fund money for me, please.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler, would you respond.