

getting the bills that we've passed to go to the standard assigned by the Governor. Obviously there are some costs involved. But it's also interesting to note that we have been told that this program of prenatal care, at 185 percent of poverty, would be about a \$500,000 cost than the bill I had last year to do this. That increased substantially under the fiscal note this year. In fact, the original dollar figure was about 1.3 million totally, that's state General and federal funds, 1.3 million last spring. But when LB 27 was introduced last week that 1.3 million figure had ballooned to \$2.9 million. And the administrative costs involved had gone from about 285,000 to 992,000, almost...almost...well, actually a tripling of the administrative cost and nearly a doub...more than doubling the actual costs of the program. Now, being a kindhearted soul, I always think that these are mere coincidences that concepts like this, in the matter of six months, double and triple in cost. If I were a little more paranoid, perhaps, I'd think that somebody was trying to set up the issue, trying to (inaudible) with the lights here, trying to send a message that they didn't like a proposal. You've all had that happen before when you've had a bill and your bill, if it's liked by those that do fiscal impact statements, it's given a fairly lowball figure on cost, and if it's disliked by those who do the fiscal impact statements it's given a high cost estimate. And so obviously we've gone, on this issue, from favorable to an unfavorable position, or maybe the facts have changed so dramatically to have that big a change is hard to believe. But whether or not that's the case, I continue to believe that the investment made is a good one, and hopefully we can get a handle on the dollar figures involved. The other thing again to note, I want to reemphasize is the figures on the...going to the birth of the child versus the seventh month to start the payments. A number of states, most states start the payments at the seventh month period, and at that point get federal match dollars. Oh, here it is. But as this proposal talks about, it goes to the birth of the child. And just for your information, if we would go to a seven month period to start the payments, the savings would be about 1.5 or 6 million dollars a year. If you go to the birth of the child the savings again are about 1.2 or 2.2 or 2.3 million a year. So about one-third of the cost goes into that last trimester. And you can still end up with substantial savings by going to the seventh month and matching the federal dollars. Those federal dollars for that program are substantial. And let me think through this. We've got about...if we have a savings of about \$700,000 is how much...