

September 30, 1992 LB 1

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: The actual amendment is to put back in 989,000, about \$1 million, until they make their decisions, until after the hearings. It gives them their day in court and then they can make the decisions.

SENATOR WESELY: Are you putting back into the budget, on the handout you have, one through six, or are you putting back...

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Two through six. One is not in there at the present time.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Like I said, we thought it was in there. We visited yesterday with the Governor's administration and with the health care people, these are the six things we thought were in there but this morning we find out that it is not.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay, let me...in the Health Committee review of the situation, items 2, 3 and 5, those dealing with the fraud and abuse, dealing with the drug issue and dealing with the Medicare crossover fee, we didn't have any problem with. And so it was numbers 1, 4 and 6 that, in our committee review, we had some serious questions about whether those should be pursued. And I don't know where Senator Moore is or where Senator Schellpeper is on this, but if somebody wanted to pursue it, I would think that it's numbers 1, 4 and 6 that we want to put back into the budget because there's questions about...and I don't know if anybody...does anybody have any concern about 2, 3 and 5? I have not heard anybody anywhere expressing a concern. And I don't have any problem putting it all back in because ultimately they could take those cuts anyway. But, as some have indicated to me, we would leave this session then with the bill that was killed by the Health Committee dealing with optional services, without anything really tangibly being done on the Medicaid problem. And so if there is a concern, we could divide the question, I'm just raising this as a possibility, and only do 1, 4 and 6 and put them back in the budget and continue to take out of the budget items 2, 3, and 5. And I can explain that further when we get into it more but that's just generally where we're at. The committee has written to Mary Dean Harvey expressing our concern about those items and requesting a review. One of the things we're thinking about, for instance, on number 4 dealing with 300 percent of SSI, I know that's a fairly complicated issue, but it's basically saying if you