

SENATOR PEDERSEN: That will not change, except the Department of Revenue will not be in charge of it anymore, it will go under this new division, under DPI, Division of Alcoholism, Drug Abuse and Addiction Services. But that commission will handle the money the same way it does now.

SENATOR HALL: Right, so in other words we haven't changed the revenue flow, if you will, for purposes of the makeup of the division. Really, we don't create a new division, we just add the term addiction services to what currently exists in DPI with regard to the chemical dependency area. Is that right?

SENATOR PEDERSEN: That's right, it doesn't change a penny in any direction in how much is used for administration, how it is spent, any way, shape or form.

SENATOR HALL: And the sole source of revenue for purposes of the addiction services that would be provided is the lottery monies, is that not correct?

SENATOR PEDERSEN: That's correct.

SENATOR HALL: Is it your intention in the future, or do you expect that the addiction services would, at some time down the road, expect General Fund monies to be appropriated in this area, or do you think that the appropriate and the only source of revenue here ought to be the lottery dollars that currently flow to that fund?

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Let me put it like this, Senator Hall, I would like to see us have General Fund money that could go into this, but we don't have it, as you know. And any other type of gambling that we look at in the future I will definitely be supporting and pushing that we use a portion of that profit to go towards this area.

SENATOR HALL: So in other words, and the reason for my concern here is just in relation to what possibly could happen down the road. I believe the committee amendments with the criteria that's established for counseling of these types of addictions makes a lot of sense. That's there whether you have the division or not. You would have the licensure, you could continue to have that. The need for General Fund monies down the road, should the gambling dollars dissipate, I think could