

hospitals as well as nursing homes so that if we get in a situation where a hospital and nursing home has difficulty, the Health Department can come in and deal with it and make sure things are operated smoothly. There were all kinds of restrictions in the law that made it very difficult for the Health Department to carry out what needed to be done and everybody agreed that it needed work. That's what this bill does and with the committee amendments I think we've got everybody happy with that issue, but that's item number one in the bill. The second part of the bill deals with reporting of the cancer registry and currently there are some discretionary reporting for...on medical records dealing with physicians and dentists and we now change that to mandatory. There wasn't an objection from them. Currently hospitals are reporting of the cancer registry to meet with federal law and to broaden the impact and positive results from the cancer registry. We need to make this change and we don't comply with the federal law except for...we comply with the federal law except we don't include the physicians and we need to do that. The third element of the bill deals with the long-standing problem we always have with asbestos and training and we've tried to not, Senator Hall asked about this, we don't want to be in a situation where we duplicate with different standards what the federal government has adopted. They are about to come out with some new standards and rather than wait and then pass a bill next year that would be implemented next fall that would bring us into compliance, we're simply authorizing the Health Department to make the changes in the rules and regulations to comply with the federal changes that we expect to come out any time in the next few months. So this will cut down problems with asbestos contractors having two sets of standards for a period of time and we usually don't like to do this. We usually wait until the standards are adopted and then make changes but the department thought in this case that it would be a cost saver and a time saver just to go ahead and handle it in this fashion in anticipation of changes through the EPA. And again, in addition with the committee amendments, we cleaned up some problems that we have with psychologists and their internship program and it merely, the committee amendments took care of some of that, and the additional things we did was we delayed that pre-admission screening program through aging for two years so we don't have that coming this summer when it's not ready, and we also deal with the vital statistics problems with the new equipment they want to purchase and allowing for a five-year fee increase to pay for that and, specifically for that, and then