

SENATOR BEUTLER: Right?

SENATOR WESELY: That's correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Prior estimates, as I understand it from the fiscal note, and it was a little bit hard to read, but as I understand it prior estimates were with respect to some other legislation that you had attempted earlier to cover the remainder of the client group with respect to those other kinds of services that they needed, indicated that an additional \$5 million would be required in order to do that. Is that more or less accurate?

SENATOR WESELY: That's...yeah, that's correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. So the total amount of money estimated to be necessary to properly serve this group of people is about \$6.6 million. Now then you would subtract from that, I assume, \$2.5 million, which is the additional federal money.

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, and also the 1.6 we're already spending.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, so the remaining amount of money, which is there, is it...is it the theory of the bill that the Medicaid option can be written in such a way that that additional million and a half or more that is necessary to serve the remainder of the clientele will not be required to be spent under the terms of the Medicaid option?

SENATOR WESELY: Right. That has always been a key concern in the past, and I think that this bill is drafted in such a way that we don't end up with an open-ended entitlement that will require additional expenditures.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Is that pursuant to some different rules in the federal side, or are we operating under the same rules that have always been there?

SENATOR WESELY: I can't answer that directly, but I think some of it is in the language of the bill that we're proposing as well.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I mean I find it curious that here we have this opportunity to supply an additional \$2.5 million of