

they're going to have to determine if in a year's time that patient will be Medicaid eligible. I mean, I just...I think we need to realize what we're going to be asking of these patients at that time. And all of us certainly are for reducing the number of people that go to nursing homes if they need to go home. What I am saying is you could take those when they come into the hospital and we know they are Medicaid patients, you can do that evaluation and try and get more of those people to go to their home rather than a nursing home, but with the way the bill is now, we will be going in with all patients getting ready to dismiss and you wait till you hear from people who have gone into the hospital, are ready to be dismissed, the families are trying to wait to make the decision as to if they will go home or go to a nursing home and at that time the Department of Aging comes in and goes, (taps on microphone), knock, knock, here we are. We need to have your personal records, I would assume, to determine if you are going to be poor enough in a year, after you go to a nursing home, to be Medicaid eligible. That's my problem. That's what makes no sense to me and that's the dialogue that we have had. And I think it's very intrusive and I think it gets at certainly private records. And, Senator Wesely, if you would answer the question beings you have worked on this, how will they get the information to determine if a person will be Medicaid eligible in a year? I mean what personal records will they have to see?

SENATOR WESELY: Well you know we check on homestead exemptions whether they qualify, we ask for information. I don't think this is much different than that, asking for financial information to determine whether or not we're going to spend \$25,000 a year.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Okay, so it's asking financial information.

SENATOR WESELY: Absolutely. We do it for homestead exemption.

SENATOR BOHLKE: That is my point and I think that people will feel very much like government is now there in the hospital room and saying, we want to know in a year if you're going to be poor enough, after we send you to a nursing home, to be on Medicaid. I just think it's simply a philosophical question. I agree with trying to do the screening. I think we know when those people come in if they are Medicaid eligible, we know that, and the hospitals have and I tried to get a sheet, and I don't have it now, of the screening they do, besides the fact of waiting for