

making a deficit appropriation to the budget versus using the claims method.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yeah, you're getting to exactly my question, which...I don't understand why this is a claim. It seems to me that a general election, we always know we have publications, we always know we're going to have them in at least a minimum amount. It may not be absolutely certain, but certainly it's more certain than \$140,000 worth.

SENATOR ABOUD: Certainly.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And it seems to me that this claims process could be used as a mechanism to get around different agencies appropriating the necessary funds that they need and thereby making their budgets look smaller, or whatever games are played.

SENATOR ABOUD: Um-huh.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I really don't understand why this is a claim, at least in this amount. Can you explain why they used the claims process for this.

SENATOR ABOUD: Well there's been some discussion recently because this particular year the claim came in late, came in behind the time that it normally should. So questions were asked exactly why is it going through the claims process and not a deficit appropriation. And the Secretary of State that we had for quite some time always chose to go through this process. Now it's my understanding that the new Secretary of State, Scott Moore, is looking towards going through a deficit appropriation process, which makes much more sense, I agree with you. I think that it would make more sense. We know that the cost is going to be there, why not go through the appropriations process. The reason it's in this bill this year is basically because it's always been.

SENATOR BEUTLER: That's the way it's always been done.

SENATOR ABOUD: Right.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay.

SENATOR ABOUD: But I tend to agree with you, and maybe that's something Senator Wehrbein can look into.