

February 12, 1996 LB 1044

SENATOR WESELY: With (interruption)...

SENATOR MAURSTAD: ...for the very reason you just indicated?

SENATOR WESELY: Well, the actual implementation of the changes to the service functions and some of the things we've been talking about that would actually lose personnel and make changes, that won't occur till at least July of '97, so that will be after the session.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: So will they be...will the next budget, are we going to have three budgets for the new three agencies, or are we going to have five budgets, as we have in the past starting out the next two-year budget period?

SENATOR WESELY: I think you will have, basically, one umbrella budget brought together. Even though the actual changeover doesn't occur January 1, there is no reason why the Governor can't start that integration early on. So I would assume that you won't have five budgets coming in in January. You'll have one that will be subdivided into those three entities.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Okay. Well, I am still trying to get sorted out in mind whether we are going to be going...beginning the next two-year budget period with the idea that we're going to be going to the three...three agencies, as you've demonstrated here, and we'll go through the whole...

SENATOR WESELY: Oh.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: ...budgeting process based upon that, or whether or not we are just going to approve a continuing, I don't want to play off the feds, but continuing budget that we would then amend when we knew exactly what the three different agencies were going to...were going to do.

SENATOR WESELY: I have clouded the issue, and I apologize for that. No, definitely, there will be the three entities in the budget associated with the three entities because the will take effect in January 1 of next year.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: The question is that I was getting at was the