

some, sometimes short-term more expensive decisions for the long-term savings. That's something that I'm sure you all will be interested in. A plan for evaluating the health and human services system performance to be used for annual reports to the Governor and to the Legislature. Well, I think you have a flavor of all that and I only suggest to you that our experience in the past with managed care and some other things suggests a note of caution. And even if you allow for a change in the date and for another legislative session, it will still have to be a fairly strong commitment on the part of the Legislature to make changes, because with a July date you will have to have an emergency clause to put something into effect before, before the first of July. But I think, the precise date aside, the idea, the possibility, the reality of taking a second look at this, at their second stage of development, that is with the December 1 plan in our hands, just makes a lot of good old common sense. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Beutler. For discussion on the Beutler amendment. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. The amendment from Senator Beutler is one that has been of controversy since the beginning of the discussion on the issue. His effort to delay the implementation of the bill until July is understandable because there are, obviously, a lot of things that need to happen between now and January and a lot of concerns that people have, a lot of questions that they have. But I want to reemphasize that those questions, those concerns will be addressed when we come back in January and have the follow up legislation that actually implements the sort of merger of programs and services that we're talking about. The step we want to take today, the step we want to take this session is to have in place the actual entity evolve and take shape in January of next year so that the discussion then becomes, as we go from this point forward, how do we make this work, how do we succeed with the changes that we're envisioning here. Because if that dynamic changes and we revisit, have the chance to revisit next year the whole question of a merger of these entities, there are those among the discussion that do not like the change and will try to find ways to not find solutions to the problems that we identify. And attitude makes a big difference here. In a lot of ways what we're talking about here is attitude. Is the attitude going to be one of constructively