

SENATOR VRTISKA: That, that was my point.

SENATOR WESELY: Yeah.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I thought that...

SENATOR WESELY: Absolutely.

SENATOR VRTISKA: And I guess the real question that I wanted to ask you, and I think you'll have an answer for it, and that is if your goal of 1059 is, is to really help out the counties by taking some of the cost, or are you more interested in improving the system and the way it's operated and building more efficiency into the programs that are provided? I mean, what is your ultimate goal? Or a little of both?

SENATOR WESELY: Both.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Both.

SENATOR WESELY: I think, I think as we face budget limitations I worry about the ability of counties to maintain, faced with additional burdens, additional costs beyond what they have now, health and human services. And so I see an ability for the state to ensure the sort of services that I know that Senator Robak, Senator Chambers, they care about people and they want to see these services maintained. I think this is one way to ensure that. The second thing is, we can do it in a way that saves money, and that's to the benefit of the taxpayers of the state, property tax as well as broader. So I see a multiple of benefits.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Now you indicated earlier that...or somebody indicated earlier, this was not in the Governor's budget and probably wouldn't, wouldn't pass his red pen. Did you say that or somebody else?

SENATOR WESELY: No, I didn't say that. It's not in the budget because it's delayed until...it's not...

SENATOR VRTISKA: I understand, yeah. The reason I bring this subject up, if we're really serious about trying to help the counties with some of their financial difficulties, wouldn't some other services that the state could pick up some or part of