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LB 1101

SENATOR REDFIELD: (Microphone malfunction)...\$2.55 as a stipend.

SENATOR AGUILAR: The \$2.55 is considered a stipend and for that reason the program has to be called "volunteers". That it...that's not a choice thing. It has to be worded that way.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Senator Aguilar, does the committee amendment allowing the HHS to set that stipend change potentially that dollar figure?

SENATOR AGUILAR: It can be adjusted, from what I understand.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Okay. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Redfield. Further discussion, Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature. I support the concept that...of the bill that Senator Aguilar is proposing to us today, but you have to realize this is...this is probably not a fix-all bill. It goes a long ways. It gets us a good start, but the appropriation, you figure about \$200,000 a year...and if I could ask Senator Pederson a question, please. He's on the Vice Chair of the Appropriations Committee, I believe. Well, I...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Don Pederson, would you yield?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Yes.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Senator Pederson, do you have a number on what...what it costs the state to keep people in nursing homes now?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: No, I don't have that information. Possibly Senator Jensen would, through Health and Human Services, but I don't have that breakdown.

SENATOR JANSSEN: All right, but it is...it's considerably more than \$200,000 a year, isn't it?