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SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR JENSEN: ... "shall", "may", not "shall", that will allow for those families who have some particular problems, perhaps a child with a disability or with some special needs, that the department can look at those and perhaps make a change there also. Hopefully, our study will help us do that, too. I hope I've clarified some of that and if there's any other questions, why, please bring them forward. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. We are discussing the Beutler amendment, AM2861, to the committee amendments to LB 1407. Senator Engel.

SENATOR ENGEL: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, we, too, on Appropriations were a little grumpy when we first heard about this, Senator Wickersham, as far as the \$32 million deficit. And we all know that this was an administrative decision that was made in... I guess in January 1998, and without any input from the Legislature. So I do hope that the intent of the study and the intent of this bill is that if they get in this situation again where they think they have to do something like that they certainly inform the Legislature because this is a big, big item. Now, I know the person who signed that... signed that order is no longer in the administration. We do have a new administration so I do not blame them at all for what has happened, but I do think that we have to put some teeth in what we tell them as far as if they're going to come up with a deficit this large at any time or if they anticipate a deficit like this, even such as the university did in their... in their health insurance, that we should be notified in advance and maybe perhaps we can do something about it. So I do... I do think this study is very, very important. I do believe we have to take care of these people coming off of... we want them off of welfare and perhaps we might have to tweak this... tweak the program so that we can continue to keep the... assist them and encourage them to stay off welfare, because healthcare is so important. But when you come up with a situation like this where it was 120 percent before and then you go to 185 percent just by the stroke of a pen and one person or just a few people having that power, I think we should... we should be passing some