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LB 1217

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. President, members of the body, I have some misgivings about some of the items included in the package but, in part, I simply need a little bit more information about a couple of others. One, I'm assuming that even though I think on one of the handouts it showed only one-year's cost to the increased mental health provider rates, that that would be an ongoing rate increase and would extend out through the rest of our planning years. I think that was implicit in the response that Senator Wehrbein gave to Senator Brashear. The other item that it appears to me would have additional cost that doesn't show up on at least one of the pieces of information that I was handed is the Sheldon Art Gallery renovations. I think the override sheet shows that the committee is asking us to override for \$987,000. The original proposal had \$900,000 in one year, and \$987,000 in the next year, and \$1.8 million in the third year out. What happens to the 900,000 and the 1.8 million dollars? Is the total project 3.6 or 3.7 million dollars? Will we be asked in a subsequent biennium budget to pick up the two years that seemingly are dropping off the status? Senator Wehrbein, if you could respond, what happens to the Sheldon Art Gallery renovations? Does that cost us just \$980,000 or is there more?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Senator Wickersham, the way we understood what we did is that it starts, the original was \$900,000 the first year, \$987,000 the second year, and \$1.8 million the third and year in after. The way we understand what we did is that we took the \$987,000 and made that the first year, and then we do have the future costs in that, and it's primarily for heating and air conditioning systems.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Okay, so someplace out in the future, we, the Legislature would be asked to fund another \$2.7 million?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Okay, so the total funding for that...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: We were looking originally at about \$3.7 million. I am not sure what those add up, but I think that's about right.