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LB 439

SENATOR BEUTLER: Sure.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Beutler, you said that this would have zero fiscal impact. Was that accurate?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: And how...I mean, very briefly, if you can emphasize how you went from a rather sizeable fiscal note to zero, I guess?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, the Fiscal Office, on review of the fiscal note, decided that their original calculations were not correct. And all that we've ever asked for is a splitting out of the cost, not any increased money for this. So that's the long and the short of it.

SENATOR SMITH: And in the hearing, you said that it would create a...basically a separate administrative agency, or a small little agency separate from Department of Administrative Services. Can you tell me how your objective perhaps has changed, and certainly the details of how that would be avoided?

SENATOR BEUTLER: The details of what, Senator?

SENATOR SMITH: Does this still create a new agency, I guess?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, it creates an office. It's not, in a constitutional sense, an agency. But it is an office. It is under the Governor. It's under the Governor's control. So I guess the answer is yes or no. It depends on what you mean by a new agency.

SENATOR SMITH: Well, I...

SENATOR BEUTLER: It is separate from DAS. That's the whole point.

SENATOR SMITH: And so theoretically, personnel from DAS would be moved to this new position? I mean, is that...?