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was advanced unanimously from the Health and Human Services Committee. And as Senator Jensen pointed out, the basic three major changes are: number one, that it establishes, the amendment establishes, a work group of consumers, of advocates, of providers, of the department to work toward developing an objective assessment process; number two, it consolidates appeal hearings in Lancaster County so they can be heard de novo on the record, and people are very much in favor of this. There's a different process for the developmentally disabled population when it comes to the appeal process, and because of the nature of their disabilities, it can't be the same type of administrative hearing that we have in other cases. So everybody has agreed to this. And number three, and something I feel is extremely important, it requires all eligible developmentally disabled persons to apply and accept Medicaid if they're eligible to receive it, and this is extremely important. Everybody has agreed on this at this point. I have no negatives. There may be a couple of things the department has that needs to be changed on Select File, but everybody has agreed. Let's read it over and then we'll make a couple of other changes on Select. But I would ask you to advance AM3185, the Health and Human Services Committee amendment. It is an amendment that's agreed upon by all that I'm aware of.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Byars and Senator Jensen. You've heard the opening on the Health and Human Services Committee amendments. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Health and Human Services Committee amendments, Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, I strongly support the amendment that's worked out. I threw in a bill back in December that caused a little consternation, to say it mildly, and I appreciate very much the work that Senator Byars did, Jeff with Senator Jensen's office, and Senator Jensen, because I haven't had the time to work on it in the last few weeks to the detail that they have done, and I know it's been worked out. And you wonder why I got into that. The reason is, if we had done nothing, we were headed toward \$1.9 million per month inequity, I guess you'd call it. Maybe that's not the best word, but anyway, an additional cost unless