## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

April 5, 2005 LB 709

happens with this study, regardless of whether it happens with this budget, regardless of whether it happens while we're still here. It is irresponsible for us to sit here today and say, well, you know what, I'm sympathetic to this, but let's not do this now. When do we do it? When do we do it, and when do we have the opportunity to put people in a position who have the experience necessary, as a member of this Legislature, to direct the discussion? Yesterday afternoon we heard comments that the amendment before us, the committee amendment, required the Legislature to come back and take action. So did the green so did the green copy. And so this morning I'm partially correcting the record, but I'm also trying to direct the discussion. There was never an intent in the green copy of the bill, there was never an intent in the committee amendment, and there is not an intent in any amendment that I will support on this body that would somehow subvert or divert from the process that we must go through, and that is this legislative body, to make changes to this plan. It's always been a part of this process, and to assume or to make judgments otherwise I think is shortsighted and unfair. This process has always been required to come back through this body. In fact, that process is also found in other bills that we have addressed in the Health Committee that have come out onto this floor, and without those amendments that were adopted to those bills, they would have subverted this process. So let's get back to where we're at. AM1049 addresses the fact that there are individuals who feel that this process isn't as open as it could be. accommodating that. Senator Beutler brought forth an idea that we discussed, and I think this is a measured step forward that is logical to take. It ensures that those individuals that have been speaking on the floor who may have representation in other areas, who have individuals contacting them from these organizations, would be able to say, look, you're going to have a seat on this commission, this council, and you're going to have direct buy-in.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: One minute.

SENATOR ERDMAN: And as a member of the Health Committee, I'm going to have direct buy-in. And as a member of the Legislature, you're going to have direct opportunity to discuss