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starting in line 8, the Governor and the Chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall each designate one person who shall be responsible to the Governor and the committee for the development of a Medicaid reform plan. Where is responsibility for this plan reposed by the law? The law reposes responsibility in the two people, one designated by the Governor, one designated by the committee. I'm not as trustful as Senator Erdman. When we are crafting legislation, we are able to state what it is that we mean. The way I read the language that exists in the committee amendment is that the committee and the Governor will each have a person who will give a report, and those two people are responsible for the development of the plan. Although you have the qualifying language, "develop in consultation with the Governor, the committee, the Policy Cabinet," and so forth, "in consultation" just means that you talk to them. It doesn't mean you have take anything that they offer. Maybe these two individuals will, but the way the language of the law reads the responsibility is not on the committee. The responsibility is on these two people. And if Senator Erdman can read language that...

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...nullifies or changes the validity or correctness of what I'm saying, I would like him to point that out to me, but I do not see it. There's nothing in this language that says anything that results from the consultation with the Governor, the committee, or whoever else has to be a part of the plan. "To consult with" doesn't mean you're bound to accept what the other party presents, so I want that clear. And with all the good work Senator Erdman is doing, I don't want him to become so carried away with the compliments that are being bestowed that some of us who are skeptical--let me speak for myself--very skeptical, very distrustful are going to have that swept away without assurances in the statute. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Lieutenant Governor, members of the committee,