

Region III Director, estimates somewhere between \$112,000 to \$150,000 for total operations including staff, food, utilities, drugs, sundries, rent and so on. In addition to that the renovations, the furnishings, consulting fees and so on would bring your total capital one-time outlay to \$75,000 for a grand total of \$187,000 to \$225,000. As I said, the consultant that I asked the information from could provide me no information, and a cost, as my information is, \$20,000 to him to be the consultant. Bernard Meyer who is the Chairman of the Region III Board estimated somewhere between \$150 to \$170,000. My information is only estimates at this time, but it's the closest that they can seem to come for a program that will be operable for as early as July 1. Okay, now just talking about the money that we're talking about spending here, let's pause a minute and add that up. We're talking about \$167 to \$205,000 or more for the first year costs and we've not even begun to consider the costs of the utilities, meals for patients, arrangements for medical assistance, laundry and a list of other expenses which will be unavoidable. Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you, is this proposed change a responsible use of our tax dollars? I think the answer is clearly no. For that reason I'm asking you to support an amendment which will require DPI to keep the medical detoxification unit at the Regional Center open and functioning. I have other information that I will give if people have questions that they would like to ask or if I have another opportunity to speak.

PRESIDENT: You still have two minutes. Do you have anything to add? We called you falsely on that last one, Senator.

SENATOR SMITH: Oh, you did? Okay, thank you. Okay, I have another point that I'd like to bring out. I feel that another strong reason for not closing the medical detox unit is based on the continuing reluctance of the Friendship House governing boards to accept the vaguely proposed contract that has been offered to them by DPI for the start up of a program as early as July the 1st as I mentioned before. That is illustrated by Exhibit B and D of your handout. Okay, in Exhibit B a letter from the Friendship House, Don Smith, Co-Chairman, Board of Directors, the last paragraph states, "while the board feels that we would be able to handle the social detox, we're uncomfortable in determining how we would be able to handle those requiring medical detox. We would feel more comfortable if beds were