

negotiating with them on exactly the features that will be in that.

SENATOR HIGGINS: What is the point of...I mean if they have got insurance now and they were hired on the basis of their present insurance coverage, am I following you right, you want to wait a year and a half to change our insurance or you want to raise the deductible now?

SENATOR WESELY: No, no.

SENATOR HIGGINS: I am really truthfully not following you.

SENATOR WESELY: I know. The last amendment would have had us change the system to a copayment deductible plan January of next year. Fine, that failed. I understand that. Okay, now we are saying we want everybody to be on notice that we are going to move toward a copayment deductible plan the following year, January 1 of 1987, so everybody is on notice. That gives us a year and a half to prepare, to negotiate out the details and to work with employees...

SENATOR HIGGINS: So from now to '87, they keep what they have got?

SENATOR WESELY: Right, yeah.

SENATOR HIGGINS: But we don't know in '87 if we will be negotiating \$150, \$200 deductible, \$300 deductible?

SENATOR WESELY: That is right.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Nor do we know what the insurance companies...does the state get a commitment from the insurance company that as the deductible goes up the premium goes down?

SENATOR WESELY: We don't get any commitment but that is exactly what happens, yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: That is what should happen.

SENATOR WESELY: Let me tell you what happens, Marge. We do this on January 1, what we will do is we will take the plan that will go in effect July 1 under the committee proposal. That will go for 18 months, that is under Blue Cross-Blue