

SENATOR SMITH: Where is this money coming from...?

SENATOR LYNCH: Because the 600,000 we are discussing will come out of the over \$13 million raised over the next four years as a result of LB 280.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, so it will be new funds from LB 280, basically, then.

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes, ma'am. We are not asking for money. We are giving back twice as much as we expect to use.

SENATOR SMITH: All right, thank you.

SENATOR LYNCH: To the general fund.

SENATOR SMITH: I would like to ask a question of Senator Warner then.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Warner, please.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Warner, as far as the budget goes at this point for mental health and alcohol programs, has there been an increase in their budget from the Appropriations Committee and what you recommend for the budget for the upcoming fiscal year?

SENATOR WARNER: No, the budget as it now stands is flat. It is the same as it was last year.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, so is that the same or is that different? How does that...is that different from other agencies or other departments, basically, or other programs?

SENATOR WARNER: Not necessarily. We have had as much as a 23 percent cut. In agencies there is...I don't remember...recall the largest increase. It wouldn't be very much and it would be a very small agency. The overall budget was about 3 percent, although that was before the 10 million. So it would be about half that now, the overall increase.

SENATOR SMITH: And if this money that they are proposing by the amendment to go into those programs did not go into the programs themselves, it would go into the general fund?