

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes, it does.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you. With that, I would support the amendment.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you. Senator Smith, please.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My first question was answered. But I would like to ask Dan if he would answer another question, please. It really isn't a question, Senator Lynch. Would you, for the benefit of the group, do a little more clarification as far as the request for the Title 19 waiver and what benefit we would derive in the state. I think we need to hear a little more about that. Then I'll let you just finish, but I do want to say that I will totally support your amendment.

SENATOR LYNCH: Thank you, Senator Smith. I'll dig out some information on the waiver. There is a process we would have to follow that does require a procedure. As I understand it, to apply for the Title 19 monies now, through the Department of Social Services, it would take about 20 days for a hearing notice. It would take about 30 days, in addition to that, for the paperwork; about 60 days for government approval, AG and government approval, and I'm not sure how long for federal approval. It is interesting to note that I think a couple or three years ago we did ask for a waiver, the state did.

SENATOR SMITH: Um huh.

SENATOR LYNCH: But it was not acted on because the state did not pursue it because of that cap problem that I discussed already.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, that was the reason why? You have the answer for why it wasn't pursued?

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes. The reason they didn't pursue it in the past, back in '83 and '84, or '83 primarily, was that institutions was concerned because they were so close to the Medicaid cap that if it were implemented for local programs, it would cost the institutions money.

SENATOR SMITH: Now then, Dan, would you tell us...you told us the procedure, how long it would take. Would you tell us how