

Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Byars.

SENATOR BYARS: Thank you, Madam Chair. To bring you up-to-date and take you back a little bit to the last discussion that we had on LB 991, the budget bill, which we...which we passed on Final Reading this morning, as part of the refiguration of 991, I made the agreement at that time, along with Senator Hall, we jointly had offered the amendment on General File to 1136 to increase funding from 40 million in the A bill. I made the agreement that in order to try to get 991 to move, to try to be fair and equitable to all of those that had placed amendments on that piece of legislation that if those individuals would...would agree to reducing the amounts that they had in 991, we, on Select File, would agree to bring an amendment to adjust the dollars that we had...that we were successful in putting in 1136 on General File, namely going to \$8 million. LB 1136, as it was left, had the original 2 million dollar figure in it that was put in when the bill was originally introduced and at this time to put it in conformity with the agreement that we reached we have offered an amendment which brings that bill to 4 million. Now you will remember that part of the original debate on 1136 was the offering of the amendment by Senator Hall that would strike the intent language to fund 1136 in the out years, and 1136 then was brought back to being...to putting funding in place for the years '94 and '95. We then amended the A bill to include an 8 million dollar figure in a one-time appropriation for the year '94-95. At that time, I think it was made very clear the necessity for putting dollars in funding for people with developmental disabilities, for a number of reasons. And I don't want to get into the long discourse and the long dissertation of all of the reasons why this is necessary but I think it's important that we revisit several of the issues that we're dealing with in this matter so that you understand how important it is that we put these dollars in. I have kept Senator Moore appraised (sic). Obviously, he is very concerned trying to keep our budget under control. I think that's his obligation. I certainly respect him for that. He, in turn, has been very courteous to myself in letting me know what he plans. He would still like to see this amount reduced. That's where we part ways. I think that the amount that we have...we have consented to compromise to in the \$4 million is an adequate figure. Let's not forget the reason being that at this time we have over 1,200 people, a full third