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legislation as I did. That's why Senate Democrats supported it. Maybe Representative Cozort had different motives," said Senator Taylor.

The Senate President says Cozort's actions are especially hypocritical in light of his silence on a previous investigation involving Republican legislators.

"If Representative Cozort is so interested in ethical government, why didn't he stand up and protest when Governor Keating fired the special prosecutor who was investigating 'Stampgate?'" asked Senator Taylor.

In 1994, the *Daily Oklahoman* and other news media documented how Cozort and other Republican legislators had used the state-financed stamps to fund their re-election efforts and the campaigns of other GOP candidates. Then-Governor Walters appointed a special counsel to investigate the improprieties, but Governor Keating fired the prosecutor and halted the probe as one of his first official acts in office.

"The transgressions of Republican legislators were well documented by the news media, but Representative Cozort didn't utter a peep when the investigation was killed.

"If Representative Cozort wants me to create a special committee to continue the investigation of Stampgate, I'll be happy to oblige him. There are many people who have been wanting to get Representative Cozort under oath for a long time. It's been said that truth is to Wayne Cozort what light is to a vampire."

Representative Cozort is drawing his allegations from a newly formed political opinion news letter operated by Republican Party activists.

The *Conservative Review* was created less than 6 months ago and has published only two issues. Its founder is David Dank (husband of Republican Representative Odilia Dank) and its editor is GOP political consultant Mike Hammer.

The Senate President wasn't the only Senate Democrat to respond to Representative Cozort's attack. Senator Kevin Easley dismissed the credibility of the Tulsa Republican.

"This is the same guy who introduced a bill this year to legalize prostitution," observed Senator Easley. "Maybe we should ask him what he received in return for that legislation. Was he paid in cash or services?"

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HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

LAWMAKER GOES TO BAT FOR MENTAL ILLNESS

■(GIT) An Oklahoma City lawmaker wants to require that psychiatric services be included in both individual and group health insurance policies. SB799, by Sen. Angela Monson, went before the Senate Tuesday. The measure would require the coverage for victims of severe mental disorders such as schizophrenia, panic disorder and severe depression.

Responding to a constituent request, the Oklahoma City Democrat defended the measure, saying it might be worth additional costs to insurance companies.

Sen. Bernest Cain, D-Oklahoma City, estimated the cost to be approximately \$1.00 per month, per covered employee.

Sen. Ben Robinson, D-Muskogee, said the insurance industry has a long history of treating mental illness as something other than an illness.

"The insurance companies are complaining that this will cost them more money," said Sen. Lewis Long, D-Glenpool.

Concerned that individual health policy costs would skyrocket as a result, Sen. Howard Hendrick suggested Monson strike the bill's title, allowing her to consider other options.

"Maybe we need to further specify in this bill that we are talking about severe mental illness and not a divorced couple who needs counseling," Monson said, agreeing to cripple the bill's

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