

March 12, 1976

that you have of diagnosing and placing handicapped children in special education programs as an allowable cost for state reimbursement cost \$421,000, and the third large item has to do with increasing the age limit from 18 to 21. Now, I do not know the break down for the \$421,000 which is designated for diagnostic costs. I assume that there are figures someplace that can be verified, and I do not know for instance whether, and this is another point, that if we declare as a part of public policy the diagnosis is a responsibility of the state to be funded, then I don't know what the end result is. I don't....this isn't shown in this "A" bill.

SENATOR BARNETT: In other words it is just a beginning figure that we are starting....

SENATOR MARVEL: I think so. I pose these questions, not trying to castigate anybody, but I think that at this stage of the game we, as Senator Koch rightfully said, we passed 403 in broad form and haven't supported it. One of the purposes of 761 is to try and clarify some of these areas.

SENATOR BARNETT: Okay, now I would like to ask you another question on transportation, and I don't know if your committee or your staff members are the ones responsible or should look into this, but I was very surprised to hear Senator Koch's motion this morning about the abuses that we are having in the transportation area. I am assuming, and maybe I am wrong, but I am assuming that these are the same people, some of the same people, that have gone to the courts to get court orders to have things done. I am assuming that some of the people in favor of 761 are in this group. I would like to ask you, has your staff had knowledge that these people were abusing the transportation part, and what have you or your staff done, what have they done to try and clarify the picture in the transportation area of these people that collected double payments. Do you have any information on that?

SENATOR MARVEL: I can get you information. I don't have it right here at the moment.

SENATOR BARNETT: I would like to know how bad it has been abused. I think that these people come in here asking for money every year, programs, they want money for this and that, and then if we had had them coming to the state and taking money for them for their transportation purposes, which really don't belong to them, I would like to have your staff or some member of your staff go after these people and look and find out how much money we are talking about. How much money have they abused.....

SENATOR MARVEL: I think that maybe Senator Lewis could help me in this area, because we are talking now generally about state aid. You had a bill in I believe that would reduce the state aid in the area of personal property tax. There is some question, and this gets into this whole business