

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I was very interested in Senator Kahle's remarks and I would take it to be criticism of Senator Murphy's amendment in that this law has been on the books since 1943 and working very well and then in Senator Murphy's explanation he in no way is touching the law that has been in since 1943 working well. Senator Kahle, I would like to ask you the question, reexplain in light of what we have heard since your remarks, explain what you mean that Senator Murphy's amendment is ruining the bill that went in place in 1943.

SENATOR KAHLE: Well, Senator Kelly, I guess I will have to back up a little. I can't say that the commission or committee that worked on this from the beginning has been functioning well. It has not been functioning well so in the Education Committee we tried to rework the whole thing and the statements are correct, either you do it right or you quit, one of the two. You don't keep going in the wrong direction. Now we feel that with the new language that we have in here, how this is to be set up and the responsibilities that are put on the different departments, that we will have a committee, board, whatever you want to call it that will work and we will get the job done. If you will take time to look at the bill, you will find that it does cover an awful lot of different services that we have in the state right now and we felt in the Education Committee that we needed to coordinate these services. So the board that will be working at this is the Director of Public Welfare or its representative, the Director of Public Institutions or the representative of the Mental Retardation or the representative of the Rehability Service or a representative of the Director of Education, the Director of Health and I am not sure I even have all of them, the Director of Mental Health Care and, of course, the Department of Health and all of this is under the direction of the Department of Education. Now it sounds kind of complicated and I think probably some of us are going to wonder what we are really trying to do but we have funded these programs that are already in existence and we need a coordinating council now that functions, that will get the job done, and it is pretty hard to do anything without some funding. Now there is some argument as to whether these departments should not be able to handle this funding on their own.

SENATOR KELLY: Thank you very much, Senator Kahle. My remarks would go in answer, as I understand better what Senator Kahle was talking about, I draw Senator Beutler's