

April 27, 1979

LB 161

where is to bring them together and mandate through statute that once a year they come up and draft an annual plan, a comprehensive plan for programs for the aging and they work together, meet together and draft this plan and then follow it and that is the basic point of why the commission was formed. As for membership, we have the Department of Health, we have the Director of Public Institutions, we have the Department of Labor, Commission on Aging, the Equal Opportunity Commission, Public Welfare, Department of Roads, they are all members and would work together in trying to come up with the annual plan and work together on implementing that plan.

SENATOR CLARK: This is a whole new commission then? Actually it is a whole new commission set up differently.

SENATOR WESELY: Senator Newell would like to answer that.

SENATOR CLARK: I am asking you.

SENATOR WESELY: Evidently not.

SENATOR CLARK: You don't know. I don't really know why you are interested in the Commission on Aging at your age, you know. Maybe I ought to be carrying the bill, but to me this is a whole new commission set up, the heads of these different departments. We have tried this before. It has never worked, never has worked. They could care less about it and I just don't think it is going to work. That is my whole objection to the whole bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Any other discussion? Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, Senator Clark is asking some good questions, the same questions he asked last time in committee and the only thing we can do is give him the same answers and those answers are that we are not talking about setting up a new commission. It is not a commission at all, it is a committee. The committee would report to the Governor and develop an annual plan. The committee would be made up of individuals within the various departments that we have named; the Department of Roads, the Department of Public Welfare, the Department of Health, the Department of Labor and the Commission on Aging and the Department of Public Institutions, to coordinate the various aspects that they each, service aspects that they each provide. What happens is the Department of Roads provides transportation but it is not coordinated with the Commission on Aging's