

offered and I'm sure that he is offering this in good faith and it is a very tough decision, who picks up those costs? Like Senator Kahle said the counties are in a bind and I realize that the state is in a bind too. I think that all of us are, especially since federal dollars are going to be a little less this coming year, next year and the following year. I think that we really need to take a good look at it. At the present time the counties pick up 16% and it was just several years ago that we got that figure lowered. Starting July 1st this coming...this year, it will drop to 14%, which I would say is reasonable, a 2% drop. The following year 12% and the third year down to 10%. We will still leave the counties picking up part of the tab. Most of the time they don't have anything to say about it. They just do and fork over the money that they are ordered to fork over. Of course at the present time we still have the 7% lid bill. We do have a bill before us that will repeal it but I don't know if we will get to it this year and if we do we do not know what the outcome is going to be. So, I'd just like to say in closing that I believe the state should take a more active part in this. I think that we as state legislators should perhaps try to come up with a new program and so I would urge you to oppose the motion.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Von Minden.

SENATOR VON MINDEN: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I rise to oppose the kill motion of Senator Warner's. For the past six years I have been a county commissioner up in Dixon County. This is one bill if the legislature would pass down here would be one bill that we could show the approximately 450 commissioners throughout the State of Nebraska, the law makers in our county, that we are trying to work with them. Come this July it will be budgeting time for the counties and believe you me it is really hard to budget for the medicaid in the nursing home that we have to pay the 60% of it as of now. As you know the nursing homes and medical hospitals have escalated probably 20-30% and we are imposed to obey the 7% lid law. When it comes to start budgeting for our 16% it is really hard to budget for because we have no idea how much the nursing homes are going to raise their costs. With that again I urge you to kill the kill motion.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Dworak.