

April 28, 1981

LB 404

far as the power between the area agencies and the State Commission on Aging. We prevent this merger that I know in particular in Senator Maresh's area has some people upset and with those then I would be willing to accept Senator Cullan's amendments which do scale back LB 404 from the original concept. So I would move for adoption of my amendments to Senator Cullan or to the Public Health Committee amendments and then I would certainly support the Public Health's amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Maresh, do you want to speak to the amendments to the bill?

SENATOR MARESH: Yes. Mr. Speaker, I hope you vote for the Fowler amendments. This has been worked out to dispel the opposition in my area and I would have to take my name off of the bill and vote against the bill if these amendments are not adopted because people want local control. They want the local boards to choose their director and they do not want to do away with the Beatrice office. So I hope that you vote to adopt the Fowler amendment to the committee amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. Speaker, I have a couple of questions. I would like to start with Senator Maresh, one of the introducers of the bill. Senator Maresh, you said that the Beatrice office was going to be eliminated if we do not accept the Fowler amendment?

SENATOR MARESH: That is the way I understood that we would be under the Lincoln office and there would be no need for the Beatrice office and there was a lot of concern in that.

SENATOR DWORAK: What other office would be eliminated, Senator Maresh?

SENATOR MARESH: One in central Nebraska. I don't know which ones would there be. Senator Fowler I think could better answer that. It is in Region III, I believe, yes. We are in Region V and it would be in Region III.

SENATOR DWORAK: I guess I want to know what offices would be eliminated if we did not accept your amendment, Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: Okay, in southeast Nebraska the Human Service region in southeast Nebraska is divided between two area agencies, one based out of Beatrice, one based out of Lincoln. In the central part of the state there