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LB 404

money, the match formula would be 75% federal-state, 25% locals. See what we are trying to do, again, Senator Kahle, was that is the present match usually found in our present service systems, alcoholism, what have you. They usually have a 25-75 match so we were just trying to parallel what we already had and if we are going to go to a state-local regional system like those other service systems, the feeling was to parallel what those others had done and that is why we changed it.

SENATOR KAHLE: But isn't the mix now 86-14?

SENATOR WESELY: 84-16, yes.

SENATOR KAHLE: All right, backwards. So you are putting a bigger load on the counties?

SENATOR WESELY: Excuse me, Senator Kahle, that is what the bill had originally proposed, an 84-16 and the committee said no, we should go 75-25 to parallel.

SENATOR KAHLE: Well I am certainly not against these programs that we have for the elderly but I have a feeling that we are trying to shove more of the cost onto the counties without the state being involved that much more and it is the same old story. They can't help themselves but we could and with the 7% lid on I don't know where they are going to get the extra money. Does that mean the program will not start? I guess he is gone from his mike but this is my concern. I have a feeling that whenever you start a program or increase a program, that if we had a percentage in the beginning, it should be kept that way and we not load the counties down with more of the percentage and then as the state decides to increase or the federal decides to increase and they have no other alternative but to provide that money. And I am afraid that what we are doing here is cluttering up this whole situation and that...if I understand it right now and I don't know where any of the people that are supposed to know the answers are around right now but some counties are not contributing to many of these programs and the programs are still being provided to them and I am not sure that this would be the case under this bill or not but when somebody else speaks maybe they can answer that question for me. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Before we go to Senator Nichol, is Senator Vickers in the room? He had a guest that was supposed to be introduced, Kristi Kammerer from Republican City, Nebraska. She was originally underneath the...are you still there? There you are. Welcome to the Unicameral. Senator Nichol.