

have to make but that option is not there now and we are just trying to realize the fact that the state does have a responsibility for providing aging services in some ways and that we ought to have the opportunity to consider that possibility. Also keep in mind the committee amendments do eliminate the requirement that all areas of the state have these services and limits the scope of the bill to those that now are in existence.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Wesely was closing on the committee amendments. So the question now is, shall the committee amendments be adopted? All those in favor of that motion vote aye, opposed vote no. You are now voting on the committee amendments. Then we shall go to the bill as a whole, if there is still a whole bill. Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 4 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried. The committee amendment is adopted. Okay, Senator Fowler, do you wish to discuss the bill?

SENATOR FOWLER: Mr. President, we have, I guess, kind of discussed the bill but maybe in the reverse order. The interim study that I chaired and that Senator Maresh and Rummery and DeCamp and Marvel and others served on, was created because last year Senator Powers of Omaha introduced a bill, LB 655, that was to try and establish in state law some sort of framework for the provision of what is known as Community Aging Services. We had hearings in five communities. We had it in Norfolk, North Platte, Hastings, Lincoln and Omaha and there were certain things that I think were important points that led to the development and introduction of LB 404. One of the first points and one that we heard repeated over and over again is that some parts of Nebraska have these services and other parts do not. Some communities have a senior diner program, others would like to have them but do not. Some communities have a transportation program for their elderly, others do not and would very much like to. So that there are some thirty counties across the state in which there are not services and sixty in which they are. The services are primarily in urban concentrated areas and the rural areas where there are a large percentage of elderly people and many times do not have the services. So one of the things that we felt should be done with LB 404 is to try and provide an encouragement for services. Now originally the bill mandated services. With the committee amendments that mandate is backed off and basically the extension of services will