

people wanted. Senator Maresh, there isn't one thing you pointed out that any county that wants it, can't have now. They can have all of those services the way it is now. I suggest what this Commission on Aging is attempting to do is to promote an empire, oh, that is a terrible word. That is terrible. We should not say that. What they are attempting to do is make it so they can tighter control what happens. We have thirty counties that have asked not to be included in this. Now we are having a mechanism so they can have it. They have always had that mechanism. Don't you think anything else. If they want it, they can have it now and, lastly, this is absolutely contrary to what the Governor has been saying and the Task Force has been saying. Now all of a sudden here is one commission that says, we are different. We know how to run this better than the Governor. We, the commission, we can set the examples. We will tell you how to do it. I think we ought to have another look at this thing.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I, too, wish to call to the attention of Senator Maresh, we just passed a bill for handibuses just a few weeks ago to take care of that problem. Senator Fowler says that the rural areas do not have these programs and they want them. I come from a rural area. I have nine counties and we have all of the programs, meals on wheels, home health services because the people got together and told the county board they wanted them. So they put them in and I agree wholeheartedly with Senator Nichol's, under the present situation, if they want them they can get them. It behooves me and I feel good in my heart for Senator Fowler for worrying about us out in the rural areas. He has said that the urban areas, the eastern part of the state is taken care of but he is concerned about us and I thank him for that. It makes me feel warm inside but, Senator Fowler, I would like to say that we will take care of ourselves on this issue because if we want these programs, we will vote them in and we will let the county pay for them. And again, I will say the same thing and I hate to be repetitive of what Senator Nichol says, how much is the state going to pay, when and where? The program is working. We are just trying to increase it. So I am going to have to oppose 404 and I have not received a bundle of mail in favor of it. I received one letter and it was not from my district. It was from the eastern part of the state for some reason. So I won't take any more time but I ask that you do not vote to advance 404. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR NICHOL PRESIDING