

May 8, 1981

LB 404

They are also opposed at this time, and I would have to talk to them about 1983, but I know at the time I talked to them they were opposed with the Commission on Aging going directly under the Governor. So I would oppose Senator Warner's amendment if we don't get the date of 1983, which is Senator Cullan's amendment. And I urge the members of the body to adopt the amendment and make it effective in 1983 rather immediately because as Senator Nichol says, you are going to get a lot of mail, a lot of calls and whatnot because they are expecting LB 404 to be advanced without any amendments and without being put under the direction of the Governor. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Warner, did you want to talk on the Cullan amendment?

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, just to state that the suggestion was made to me and I gave some consideration to it. I finally decided that if the change, in fact, is going to be made, then it just as well be done in the bill and done at the effective date ninety days after the session. It would be true that we would have to add an A bill to make that transition take place. At the time there would be no additional funding, just taking the funding that is in the appropriation bill now which by that time would have been signed or vetoed, whatever the Governor was going to do with it for that agency and the A bill would merely reflect transition properly. But I think that if, as I understand the bill, that there will be the development of some state plan for the aging, some other responsibilities that could well be for naught or at least certainly would be very difficult to have any firm action if the possibility was there that the responsibility for that agency's operation was going to change at some future few months. I assume it would be argued over again as well. And again my sole reason for offering it is those who have strongly taken the position of direct line responsibility ought to be in existence at the level of state government, the Governor ought to be the one placed...the office of Governor should be placed in that responsible position, then it seems to me that if that policy is right in 1983, there is every reason to presume it is right in 1982 and I would think it ought to be right in 1981 as well. So I would move...I would suggest the Cullan amendment not be adopted.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Cullan, do you want to close?

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would simply like to make it clear to the membership of the Legislature exactly what the amendment is. As