

Johnson's amendments and later I will speak as to why I support LB 522 itself.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Kahle and then Senator Nichol.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President and members, this has been a long, a long program that I have been interested in, ever since I have worked with county government. The problems I see with the amendment is this, you are asking that the state take over the program as of July 1983. You are also asking that the funding would start in 1983 so you are talking about, if I am correct, and if I am not right, Senator Johnson, actually the takeover would be as far as funding would be concerned would not take place until 1984. But even if that is not true and we started in 1983, you have got from 14 to 12 to 10 to 8 to 6 to 4 to 2, which is what, six or seven years. I am just not willing to have the state take over the program and the county keep paying and not have anything to say about it. The whole rhubarb over this whole thing has been that the counties have put up a considerable amount of money each year for those programs that are funded or taken care of in their county. So the only way, and I have an amendment up there, I don't know whether to present it now or later, which would say that as soon as the state picks up the entire funding, then the control goes to the state. Until then, it doesn't. It would be very easy for us next year to not fund that and yet, according to the amendment that Senator Johnson has up there, it would turn it over to the state control. So unless there is some safeguard in there, I certainly could not support the amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: There is an amendment on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Kahle I assume would wish to move the Vard Johnson amendment by inserting the following language: (Read Kahle amendment found on page 956, Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR KAHLE: That is the amendment and I have already told you why I feel that way. It is very necessary that this happen. Now if the state wants to pick it up quicker than that, I will not object but we do have some other bills in the making that Senator Johnson knows about that may hurry this process up, but at least until we get some reassurance that the state is going to pick up the program, I cannot go along with this amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Nichol.