

committee amendment calls for a gradual reduction of county commitment to the Medicaid funding and finally in 1988 counties have no further commitment to Medicaid funding. That is what the committee amendment did. And when the committee put that amendment on it thought it was doing something that was politically wise. It turned out on the floor not to be so wise. So Senators Cullan, Nichol, Kahle and myself have an amendment which we are going to offer in a few minutes which will provide simply that come July 1st, 1983, the counties will have no financial burdens whatsoever for welfare administration. We'll have the takeover effective July 1st, 1983, and at the same token, the same time, counties will be totally relieved of any financial burdens from that point forward. So it makes the measure very clean cut, clear and absolute measure and that is where it stands. I will be happy to discuss the amendment if it is next in the material. Pat, is my amendment the next one up?

PRESIDENT: We'll take up the amendment, Senator Johnson. I just want to alert everyone that there is a thirty minute time limit on this, LB 522. Read the amendment, Mr. Clerk. Amendment on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Cullan, Kahle, Vard Johnson and Nichol would move to amend the bill and the amendment is found on page 1078 of the Legislative Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I would really hope that this body would indulge me at least in terms of being limited to a half an hour and by that I would hope that the body would quickly adopt the amendment and then the bill will be in what I call the clean form so that it can be discussed. What does the amendment do? It just says, as I indicated a little earlier, that come July 1, 1983, we will have a state administered welfare program and, and here is where the amendment does it. All the costs traditionally borne by the counties which right now are about \$17 million, those costs will be fully borne by the State of Nebraska and the counties will be fully, totally, absolutely relieved of any further cost for welfare programming and that is the nature of the amendment. I would offer the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Any discussion on the amendment? Senator Kahle or Senator Clark, do you wish to speak to it? Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President and members, as those of you who have been in this body for a few years know that I have carried legislation to eliminate or to cut down on the part the county pays for medical vendor payments over a period of years. Senator