

also it spreads the risk associated with indigency. A county, a small county could be hit with a very large medical bill and that bill would have to be paid and there really is no way that they could budget or anticipate those possible expenses and so this does spread the risk of medical bills across the entire state rather than focusing this risk on a single county. The fiscal impact of LB 602 for this year is...there is no fiscal impact because the effective date is in 1983. The fiscal note is for \$2.3 million in 1983 and again, we don't know how accurate that fiscal impact is because we don't know what the standards are going to be and we don't know how much money we're going to put into an indigent program at that period of time. The last point I would make is that this bill really works well with LB 522 which was advanced earlier because it does put some ceiling on the standards of indigency. I would ask you to adopt the committee amendments and to move the bill.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Cullan, as I...a question of Senator Cullan if he will yield. As I read the committee amendment it defers implementation to July 1 of '83 and I presume that's the...to argue there is no fiscal impact this year. Right?

SENATOR CULLAN: That's one purpose. The one major reason is to ensure that the Department of Welfare will have an opportunity to promulgate standards for indigency.

SENATOR WARNER: I see. Well, what...could we amend the bill so that they will have an opportunity to develop those standards without the obligation on the next session of \$2 or \$3 million.

SENATOR CULLAN: I would oppose that, Senator Warner. I'm sure it could be done but I would certainly oppose it.

SENATOR WARNER: Well I guess I'd have to speak in opposition to the bill, Mr. President, then. I am becoming more and more aware of, I do not know how many millions of dollars of proposals that are going to have a delayed effective date to 1983 under the disguise that we can pass them now at no cost which would be true for this year. Obviously if we start this on a wholesale lot, if we thought we had revenue problems this year, we will buy a whole new package of them next year under the disguise of pretending we didn't do it and I guess I would urge that inasmuch that there is a way apparently, by Senator Cullan, that we could direct the department to develop those standards at which time we could