

she says, I understand if this bill goes through I will lose my job. I said, well it could be. It probably won't be for a year or two but yes I think you will lose your job in time. Senator Johnson said something about having perhaps 15-20 of these located throughout Nebraska. We will lose up in our county outstate places where we have unemployment also. I think we have seven girls working in my. . . or working in the Welfare Department in Dixon County. Those seven people will go someplace else. I feel my taxes should be for employment for my people where I live. This is a very serious bill and look at it again before you vote and advance this thing any further. It is going to take our local control away. It is going to cost you a lot more dollars than the way it is right now. Think about it before you vote on it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature I'm glad that we have an opportunity to debate this issue this afternoon. I guess I'm a little surprised at what is going on here today. A little surprised particularly at Senator Kahle's position here on Select File. Senator Kahle has been pushing for years to lower the county share of Medicaid from 20% and now it is down to 14%. I've supported Senator Kahle every step of the way. I've got those bills, worked hard to get those bills out of the Health and Welfare Committee early enough in the session so they would be considered, I worked diligently with Senator Kahle to help get those bills enacted to lower the amount of money that the counties put in the welfare system. Why did I do that? I did that because I thought it was very unjust for us to force the counties to pay for Medicaid when the counties could do nothing, nothing to control their Medicaid costs. They really have virtually no control. They just pay the bill. It really, in my mind, is just a means of us paying for the system with property taxes rather than sales and income tax dollars because we don't want to be responsible for the taxes for the state program which we set up. I don't see how you can say a program, this program is a local program. It just isn't. It is not a local program. But, Senator Kahle says we like to have our county boards, county boards of supervisors look over these welfare cases. I say, fine. If Senator Kahle and the county officials want to move down that road, then let's turn around. Let's reverse what Senator Kahle has been doing in this legislature for years. Because, if the counties want control then they ought to pay for it. We ought not to be bailing the counties out as long as they want to run the programs. But the counties don't want to run the programs and that is why almost everybody