

before you do, Senator Cullan, may I just introduce some guests of Senator Jim Goll, his brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Goll are from Tekamah are under the north balcony. Would they stand up back there and be recognized. Jim, would you have your brother and wife stand up. Welcome to the Goll's. Welcome to your Legislature.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, particularly Senator Kahle. I think I would agree with Senator Kahle that counties have shared too much of the burden of the Medicaid program and I have always supported Senator Kahle in that direction. But I really disagree with Senator Kahle in the element of local control. I just don't think there is much, if any, significant local control left there. There is no reason for us to pretend that there is. My only point, Senator Kahle, and I know county commissioners work hard and they do...they try their best to do a good job in this area, but my only point is that we can't. . . counties shouldn't be able to have it both ways, shouldn't be able to have us continue to pick up the bills and have them assert some type of local control. I'm sure that the great, great majority of counties support this legislation. I know their association does. So I urge you to advance LB 522 because I think it is a major positive step in the welfare system and I hope that we can move on with it today. Senator Johnson.

PRESIDENT: Senator Johnson, will you complete the. . .

SENATOR JOHNSON: Yes, I would. One point I wanted to make clear, I want to straighten out two things. One thing I want to straighten out is the issue of jobs. The welfare department has a turnover of 12% of its employees annually. It is a tough job. Now what will happen about jobs in the event this legislation passes? Welfare department says that it doubts if anyone will ever be laid off. It says, the attrition rate will take care of it. We may do some re-classifying of some employees but we doubt that we will ever have to lay anybody off because of the rate of attrition that occurs. So, I don't think jobs, I don't think the involuntary termination of anybody is really at issue in this measure. Secondly I've got to take care of the 816 issue. Yesterday this body amended 816. Senator Kahle, are you listening to this? Yesterday this body amended LB 816 and took out the Medicaid feature. That is gone from LB 816. So 816 is not in dispute with 522. I mean 522 stands by itself, has nothing to do with 816. Now that means when 522 goes into effect in 1983 there will