

March 31, 1982

LB 942

program. As Senator Warner has said I think we are out of line with this program in connection with the other programs that we have. Of course, I would be very willing to work at that but we are going to lose another year. Senator Cullan argues that this change is somehow unfair or rewards backwards regions. I admit that if some regions were not presently making their match this amendment might allow them to put together a full local share by pulling in those other fund sources with that local share that would qualify for the full state allotment. In some cases I suppose that would be a windfall but that, and I state that is not the situation. All the regions are making their match now and they are doing it with tax funds. Thus, there would be no windfall to any region. In fact the state monies allocated to this program are not increasing so this change would have no immediate effect so I just can't see what the problem is. What we are saying is that counties right now could not lower the tax effort that they have, that if the state saw, did not see fit to increase any funding for the mental health program, there certainly would be no tax effort by the state. What I am asking you to do today, in reference to the bill 982, or 942, excuse me, is to merely put the mental health program on exactly the same basis as the mental retardation and the alcoholism program. I just can't see why that is so terrible. I hope you will support the amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: The question before the House is the adoption of the Kahle amendment. All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting no.

SENATOR CLARK: Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: 6 ayes, 20 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Kahle's amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Motion fails. Do you have another amendment?

CLERK: Yes, sir, I do. Mr. President, the next amendment I have is offered by Senator Fenger. Senator Fenger's amendment is on page 1506.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Fenger.

SENATOR FENGER: Thank you, Mr. President, my apologies to the body for having the bill numbers wrong. This is the amendment I spoke of just a few minutes ago. This amendment would remove the \$3.75 fee proposed that would be assessed