

March 31, 1982

LB 942

Senator DeCamp changing from no to yes.

SENATOR CLARK: Roll call vote has been asked for. We must keep it quiet so the Clerk can hear up here. The Clerk will call the roll.

CLERK: (Read the roll call vote as found on page 1540 of the Legislative Journal.) 20 ayes, 24 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Wesely's amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Motion lost. Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, I would just renew the motion to adopt the amendment. As I indicated earlier it provides for a reduction initially in mandated services, I mean in optional services except those paid for by DPI up to the tune of 10 percent before you actually reduce mandated services.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, so you know the two choices that you are going to have this afternoon on this issue, Senator Cullan's amendment is one which in essence prorates, I think as he has indicated, prorates the various programs initially as far as the funds will go. If I understand it correct, Senator Cullan, you fully fund the mandated programs, prorate the federally mandated programs and then prorate the balance and if there still is not adequate funds then you prorate everything from that point forward. The alternative that you will be offered will be the same amendment that was discussed the other day which in essence is LB 932 which permits the Department of Welfare to make vertical cuts that is elimination of programs rather than prorate. And the choice you need to consider is if you think that prorating, continuing lesser important programs at the expense of the more important ones being adequately funded, then the Cullan amendment is appropriate. The amendment we will offer which is the same one that the committee offered the other day is the one that would allow the Department of Welfare to fund some programs that are not mandated by the federal government and not fund some programs in order that they could use the money in the most life threatening type of medical care and give that the greatest priority. The objection that was given the other day to that was that we were delegating authority to the Department of Welfare to make those selections and I suppose the only response I would have that it's no different than the concept that