

April 6, 1982

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not moved out that then the money was there to maintain that same individual's services at Beatrice and the argument, of course, is that some of that money could be used I think under the language in the appropriation bill for some services within the region for unserved people there. I think those from the regions would prefer to have the money earmarked so that they are sure they are going to have it and they certainly have waiting lists, there is no argument about that. Others, of course, object to the Department having the flexibility that the 035 Program provides them and I guess I am getting to the point where I have signed the amendments, but I have just about got to the point where I think it has been run too many times. I guess that is all I will say.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Sieck. The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. Shall debate now cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Voting on ceasing debate. Record the vote.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on ceasing debate.

SENATOR CLARK: Debate is ceased. Senator Hoagland, this is on the return of the bill.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Senator Clark and colleagues, right, now let me just make two points briefly. What we are talking about in this amendment is the best use of available funds. I don't think anybody would argue with Senator DeCamp that under ideal circumstances we should add funds but that is not the issue here. After this is adopted, if it is adopted, then people can talk about adding funds. What we are considering here is the best use of available funds and it is a judgment of a lot of independent people, including the Association for Retarded Citizens, that group that all of us are familiar with, that is actively involved in this area, whose children are being treated by state and federal dollars in this area, that this is the best way to use these funds. Now with respect to the court decision, the court decision is clearly interested in being sure that people previously transferred out of Beatrice are adequately cared for. There is no point in pulling new people in off the waiting list or transferring additional people out of Beatrice unless we also have the funds to take care of those former Beatrice patients that are currently being served by the regions. All this amendment does is to assure that that is going to continue to take place. Now again, if we want to add additional money later to bring new people out, let's do that but let's don't bring new people out until we know we can adequately serve the existing people. So with that I would ask the return of this for this amendment. Thank you, Senator Clark.

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