

oh, and I forgot the percentage, but it is a very high percentage of people over 65. The most important thing in their life is to stay in their own home. They need in-home services. They need help and, believe me, if they had to leave their home and go into a high-rise or a nursing home and be taken care of by the counties, we would see an expense that we can't believe. The in-home services are very important to them, direct services, and it is to those that are most in need, in some cases have no family whatsoever. They are calling me constantly asking for help. Senator, I believe, Hannibal mentioned human services of any program is important and very necessary and I believe strongly in all human service programs, but the most important of all the programs that we have, regardless what they are, are the in-home services for the elderly. We, in 1982, passed the legislation. I think we ought to keep our word and at least give them what they are asking for and provide those services that are necessary to keep the elderly in their home. I know that the churches do as much as they possibly can for the elderly, at least they do in my parish, but we can only do so much. There is only so many...there are so many elderly people in my district, and especially in my neighborhood, our church can't keep up with it. We can't keep up with our schools. We can't keep up with the upkeep of the church, let alone the services that are necessary for the elderly. I strongly approve of the amendment by Senator Smith and I commend her and the other senators that signed on as a co-sponsor of the amendment, and I am very proud that I am one of them. So I urge you to adopt the amendment to LB 813.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Senator Labeledz, for being the one and only at this point in time who stood up and said, you know, this is something that we need. I would like to make a few points. Senator Hannibal, I think maybe we need to have a little clarification. Didn't I hear you say you funded them 10 percent of their budget? That is not correct. You funded them 10 percent of the CASA funding which was a bill that was passed in 1982. That is state aid, not their budget, so that amount that you said, by the way, I want everyone to know, is \$110,000. Yes, but it is not 1/10th of their budget. Right. I want you all to keep in mind that the Area Agencies on Aging are considered to be through the Older Americans Act established by the federal government the umbrella agency for aging services and programs across the nation. This