

May 4, 1989

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monies coming to the State of Nebraska. So I strongly urge the members of the Legislature to support Senator Hall's amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, I would like to ask a couple of questions. But first I would just like to make a comment and that is that everyone seems to want to be involved in the anti-drug effort. But could Senator Hall identify for me how the money is spent, who spends it and what in the nature of his amendment would improve the drug abuse programs, if he would do that, please.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hall, please.

SENATOR HALL: Yes, Senator Schmit, I will attempt to.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Senator Schmit, there is a regional system that is set up across the state and I think there currently are seven...five, five regions...I knew it was an odd number, higher than three, and those regions have programs that are provided. Most of those are contracted out. They're done through local agencies that provide these services on a need basis. They do not go out and willy-nilly put a program together just because the funding happens to be there. They go out and do it based on need. I happen to be familiar with region 5, I guess, in the Omaha area, I think it is, and what happens is that they work in conjunction oftentimes with the county board. Many of these funds are required to have county matches. They work with private agencies that match these funds and there also is always an attempt to double the effort if federal funds are available. So it is a program effort that gets the best bang for the buck, if you will, with regard to the number of people that are able to be served, the overall population that is able to be served because it is a statewide effort that there is a coordination of services that I think is probably second to none with regard to any other programming that we allocate state dollars for. So it is an outstanding system that is in place, that just needs some more money to continue maintenance of effort kind of operation.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Can you name some of those entities with whom DPI contracts, please?