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LB 813

SENATOR HALL: Here in Lincoln the...I think it's called the Lincoln Alcoholism Center. I know that St. Gabriel's, St. Raphael's United Catholic Social Services in Omaha is for a number of years, I think somewhere in the area of 15 contracted with both the state and the county in Douglas County. I know Senator Nelson could respond to some of the local agencies in her neck of the woods but I know those, for example, have a long standing relationship with DPI and DPI feels they do an outstanding job. There also are contracts with the school districts.. Some of this funding, currently there is prevention in the schools, education in the schools that has been going on for three years. It's scheduled to end because they just don't have the funding to continue the prevention programs that have been placed in the public school system because the money isn't there. They need to use the monies for treatment and without additional funds they are not going to be able to continue those prevention programs at the elementary and secondary level that, basically, stop the problem before it gets started. So there are even contracts with the school districts. I know when I was at the agency we used to do some work with District 66, OPS and even some private...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...schools.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, thank you, Senator Hall. I really am not familiar with most of these programs and I really do not think that many of us understand the channelization of those funds and I have not ever questioned, I guess, the Appropriations Committee as to how those funds were utilized. I run across them from time to time in various programs but I appreciate your explanation, Senator Hall.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Langford, followed by Senator Scofield and Senator Haberman. Senator Langford, please.

SENATOR LANGFORD: Mr. President and colleagues, I don't ordinarily talk about these things on the floor but there are one or two things that I would like to remind you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Langford, may I interrupt you a minute. (Gavel.) Let's hold it down, please, so we can hear the speakers. Thank you.