

started talking about local alternatives, I was a member of a county board that started it all. So we have some idea about what is happening. I have offered an amendment, rather an amendment to the amendment, which involves \$6 million. That \$6 million amendment will provide the money that we need at about \$16,000 a client to clear the 370 people waiting list we have in Region VI. If you will listen to Senator Coordsen and the rest, you will see that of the \$2.4 million, it is down to 2.1 now, Region VI is not in that list. I want to go on to say, so that you understand, that probably I have Appropriations Committee bashed as much as anybody around here when it came to funds for MR, but I want to also tell you that, as I listened to Senator Hannibal and Warner and looked over the budget, I think they did the best job they could, the Appropriations Committee, to try to meet the needs of the regions and, in fact, continue to provide for the waiting list as we should have with the waiver money that was established with Governor Orr's support. I tell you all that because, you see, in Region VI, I think in Region I, they took the money and used it, in fact, for the purpose that we were told to use it for and that was to clear the waiting list as best we could. I want to remind you that we still have 370 out there waiting, and because of that, we didn't run up a deficit in Region VI. It is because of that, Region V is entitled with this amendment to a million, three hundred and forty-six thousand, but Region VI gets nothing. So you see that leads us to the next point then. In some regions, they used it, the waiver money, for the purpose it was intended. In some other regions, apparently assuming because somebody told them something along the way that money would be forthcoming later on, go ahead and clear your waiting lists. And so what happens with this amendment, as much as I think we need more money for retardation, as much as I have opposed some of the things we have traditionally done in the past, as much as I am offended by the fact that we have a two-tiered funding mechanism to support MR for local programs as applied to institutions, given all of that, I have to tell you you have to understand what this amendment does. I appreciate Governor...Governor, he sounds like a governor anyhow, George Coordsen's amendment, I appreciate the support for the MR programs, but what we do with this amendment, unfortunately, is penalize at least Region I and Region VI for doing what they were supposed to do with the funds. And, in fact, what you do is you carry over, carry over that benefit for those regions that just used the waiver funds improperly, in my opinion, and spent money they didn't have, unfortunately, and reward them for that as compared to Region VI