

amendments were offered by the General Affairs Committee, chaired by Senator Smith. Senator Smith now has an amendment to the committee amendments, Mr. President. It is found on page 1726 of the Journal. (See AM1338.)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the body, this is an amendment to LB 849, the enabling legislation for the state lottery that would create the Community-Based Aging Services Fund into which 10 percent of the net proceeds of the state lottery money remaining after the payment of prizes and operating expenses would be deposited. The fund would be used to support community-based aging services to older individuals, and it would include such things as home-delivered meals, chore and housekeeping services, transportation services, escort services, personal care aide services, respite care services, senior center services and maintenance, to name a few. The fund would be administered by the Director of the Department on Aging, and it would be distributed to the area agencies on the same formula, on the same way that they distributed what they call the intrastate funding formula, and that includes the other state dollars, which are the CASA or the Community Aging Services Act Funds, as well as what federal funds they receive under the Older Americans Act. And I would want to make really clear that this would not be a fund that would replace funding under the Community Aging Services Act as it presently is in the department. This fund will be used to support or supplement those other two kinds of funds that are used to provide community-based aging services. They are extremely important because they are used to help older individuals maintain independent lifestyles. They avoid that way, then, premature and inappropriate institutionalization. These services help to reduce the cost to our society in providing needed services to our aging population and it prevents institution before that is necessary as a part of what I call a continuum of care. In 1982, the Legislature passed LB 404, and that was before I was here, but I was working with aging programs at that time. It was titled, and I remember that Senator Wesely was the sponsor of that bill, that bill was titled the Community Aging Services Act, and that is the one we keep referring to as CASA now, the intent of which was to establish a statewide network of community aging services, which would make it accessible, then, for services to all older Nebraskans. And it was intended by fiscal year '83-84 that they would put \$2.5 million into that