

follow in dealing with all of your criteria; even though you're the one implementing the program, this is the criteria you have to follow. And it's a problem that, unfortunately, our Congress really hasn't wanted to deal with, and that's part of what the issue is over unfunded mandates that we're currently addressing and we will be addressing in the form of a resolution later this session. The federal government tells us what to do. They provide some money and this money that we're talking about is part of an ongoing annual appropriation that the state receives from the federal government to operate our Department of Labor. I guess you make decisions on whether or not you want to continue to receive that federal fund. Some states, in different programs, have said, no, we don't care, we would prefer to run our own Department of Labor, our own Department of Health, or operate our own Medicaid program and we're tired of the federal government telling us what we should or should not do. And this is just another example of it. They may have, in fact, had their best intentions for adopting this piece of legislation and they may think that they know what they're doing in this manner, but, until the federal government comes forward and says we're willing to provide the entire funding for these types of programs, I think we're going to have a continual friction between the state and the federal government. And it's my hope that maybe with the new Congress that maybe we'll have less of this type of unfunded mandates that they...that they force down upon our throats. At this time, I'm going to be agreeing with Senator Hall for the bracket motion and in the coming two weeks I'll be happy to work with Senator Hall, as well as with the Department of Labor, in trying to formulate statutory language, if that's possible, to place some of these criteria into the statute. And, with that, I'll be supporting the bracket motion. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Abboud. Senator Hall, do you wish to speak?

SENATOR HALL: I'll just close.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Is there any objection to the motion to bracket? Seeing none, the motion to bracket is...the bracket order is ordered. Mr. Clerk, some items for the record.

CLERK: Madam President, thank you. Your Committee on Enrollment and Review reports they have carefully examined and reviewed LB 17 and recommend that same be place on Select File;