

historical role of the counties, and if we want to eliminate them from the role of general assistance, now that, you know, that is something we could talk about and we have talked about. When we took over the welfare program from the counties, and the state took that over, one of the thoughts was that general assistance would go along with it. We didn't do that, but, at the same time, taking this step I think washes their hands of any responsibility, and, in fact, forces them not to do anything, when they may, in fact, choose that it may be a good thing for them to do, they wouldn't even have the option to do it. So, Senator Hall, I understand the concern but this seems extreme to me, and perhaps there'd be a better solution. So I'd ask opposition to the Hall amendment. I think this came up last year, and I am not sure it had very much support at that time, but I hope there won't be any more support for it this time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Madam President, members of the body. Senator Hall, may I ask you a question or two, please.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Hall.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Hall, this just doesn't sound like your kind of an amendment, but I understand where you are coming from, and I understand why this needs to be talked about. But what exactly...

SENATOR HALL: Senator,...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Did you want to respond to that?

SENATOR HALL: I was just going to say I've never seen an amendment that I wouldn't run or at least attempt to run.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: (Laughter) That's what I was wondering, Senator Hall. But would you respond to what kind of medical services does the county furnish, I mean...

SENATOR HALL: In the form of...and we are dealing, basically, when you are talking...when we are talking about this area, we are talking about Chapter 68 that deals with paupers and public assistance, and...