

February 12, 1996 LB 1044

families. The focus on results clarifies whether allocated resources are adequate to achieve the outcomes expected by funders in the public. Why are we focusing on partnerships with communities? Generally speaking, the closer services are delivered to the persons receiving the services, the more responsive and effective the services. Community responsibility for and management of issues reflects the uniqueness, the strengths, the priorities of the citizens paying for the services, i.e., the taxpayers, as well as the recipients of health and human services. Some services are best delivered by state government, but others are best delivered by the private not-for-profit and private for-profit community. The shift to community, as well as results-based accountability, cannot be allowed to substitute for rock-bottom safeguards against fraud, abuse, poor services, and inequities or discrimination based on race, gender, disability, or ethnic background. I ask you to advance the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you. For debating the motion to advance, Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. President, members of the body, I have a...I do stand in support of the bill, but I do have some questions, Senator Wesely.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Yes.

SENATOR ROBINSON: I guess the first...first one, before I forget there is going to be a lot of work done if this bill passes and I think it's going to. Are you going to be...your committee going to be monitoring what goes on from now on until that bill comes...comes before us next December or...?

SENATOR WESELY: Yeah, I think that our committee, I think the Appropriations Committee will be involved as well. I think your committee, Government Committee, should be involved, so I think...I think we will have anybody in the Legislature, practically, who is interested in having an opportunity to be part of the process.

SENATOR ROBINSON: But there will be meetings throughout to keep the Legislature informed.