

March 5, 1996

LB 1044

SENATOR WESELY: Right. Currently they have fifteen slots, plus the agency directors that are exempt.

SENATOR CROSBY: So what Kate's trying to do is put it back to the fifteen, from thirty, that's in the bill?

SENATOR WESELY: I think that's what she'd like to do, yes.

SENATOR CROSBY: Yeah. Is it thirty, fifteen in each, like Social Services and Health, in Aging, and...

SENATOR WESELY: No, just total for the...

SENATOR CROSBY: Total, okay.

SENATOR WESELY: ...for the three agencies.

SENATOR CROSBY: Total, okay. I looked at the bill, but I think those things are kind of confusing when you start tossing numbers around. So it's just a total of thirty people altogether...

SENATOR WESELY: Right.

SENATOR CROSBY: ...in what we're going to call an umbrella agency. Right?

SENATOR WESELY: Right.

SENATOR CROSBY: Okay, I still don't know how I'm going to vote, but I just wanted to clarify those things. Thanks, Don. Because I do think it's really important to remember the people that are there and who make these agencies work every day. And as I understood it, I don't think Don Leuenberger needs me to defend him in any way, but I don't know what...I'm not privy to what goes on in the agencies, nor in the administration. Those people work every day. And there were some problems from what we gleaned, through Appropriations and so on. As I understand it Mr. Leuenberger came over from Omaha as a service, to try to pull Social Services together because there were some perceived problems. And his salary, as I understand it, also...and Roger Wehrbein, I think, maybe will back me up in this, but...he's not here, it's a combination of sources of funding, that because he had this salary at the Medical Center, and in order to get him