

March 5, 1996

LB 1044

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I yield my time to Senator Chambers at this point.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. And, members of the Legislature, looking at the bill again, I don't see one word in here that talks about solving the problems that "inhere" in the poor manner that services are delivered. So let me ask Senator Wesely a question. Senator Wesely, where is there anything in this bill that ensures that these services are going to be well delivered and there won't be repetition of the instances that I cited earlier? Where, show me where what in the bill prevents that?

SENATOR WESELY: Senator Chambers, most of the bill is intent language which includes what you are referencing, and then it talks about the establishment of a process to develop plans and reports that will implement that...those goals. And so if you look at anything specific in the bill, you won't find the specific solution to the problems you're talking about, but the fact that you merge these entities and the follow-up that will occur from the bill will bring us those answers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Members of the Legislature, did you hear that answer. Senator Wesely gave an answer in the same kind of verbiage that the bill is written in; nothing specific, nothing precise, the answers are not there, but if you create this superbureaucracy, magically the answers will flow from it. If the answers are not going to flow from what we have, and we have these agencies that are smaller, they cannot be controlled or managed and they are small. When you enlarge them, that's going to make them even less controllable, less manageable, and you will increase the problems that need to be solved. If you have a thief who steals nickels and dimes, do you mean to tell me that you are so out of touch with reality that you think if you put this thief in a bank vault where there are hundred dollar bills he won't steal those, too? No, he just does on a bigger scale what he is doing already. If you have a predator who loves red raw meat dripping with red blood, salty, delicious,