

of lights on, some of which were on prior to the introduction of the Chambers amendment, but I will run through them. Senator Wehrbein, on the Chambers amendment. Senator Wehrbein, I think, waives. Senator Chambers, on your amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, as was stated earlier, there has been some discussion on the bill while talking about community... I meant by, while talking about committee amendments. I'm looking at page 3 of the green copy of the bill, and all we see really is intent language that means nothing. So I'm not getting to that yet. I'm just dealing with the committee amendment. But I look at this statement on page 3 of the green copy, the legis... starting in line 7, "The Legislature further finds that by eliminating reliance on property tax revenue and county support for such programs administrative and program cost savings and other efficiencies will occur." As we go on I want Senator Wesely to tell me the program cost savings and the efficiencies that will occur. They don't say these things may happen. They are forecasting and guaranteeing that this is going to happen, and it's not, because all the Legislature is doing is engaging in intent language. But how are they going to save money? In the way that the state always does it, by cutting programs and cutting those people who are harmed the most. I heard what Senator Wesely said about this being the only bill out of some study or whatever other effort had been put forth to come up with something. But I hate to say it, I see all of this activity as being politics motivated. Senator Wesely knows, or he ought to know, that there is no way to say that money is going to be saved simply by enacting this bill. The way the state spends less money, and that's what they call a saving, is provide fewer services or provide services for a shorter period of time. I'm not interested in efficiency in the sense that Senator Wesely's bill and LB 1044 envision efficiency, which means that you just make some bureaucratic changes. And those people are given the message that they are to cut these programs and harm the people who are to be served by them. I still have the concern for these groups that I've always had. And I think Senator Wesely, by being chairperson of that committee, has had to take a position that somewhat dulls his sensitivity to the welfare and interest of these groups. A bill such as this ensures nothing. If the county is responsible for providing these services, pressure can be brought to bear on the counties to discharge that duty. If it's taken away from the counties