

Center, the state pays 28 million; the counties, 469,000, about 2 percent. The regional centers, the state pays over 47 million; the counties pay 1.1 million, about 2 percent. In aging, the state pays 19 million; the counties 1.5 million, about 8 percent there. On developmental disabilities, the state, 61 million against 2.9 million by the counties, about 5 percent. Mental health, the state, 34 million; the counties, a little over 2 million, 6 percent. Substance abuse, the state over 13 million; the counties, a little over 700,000, about 5 percent. So we've got a delivery system of services here where the state is really funding almost all of it. The counties are putting in a pittance, and they're trying to call the shots. Now I appreciate what Senator Robak has referred to, I've gotten these letters also. And almost every single one of them is someone who wants to protect their own turf or their own job, and they're afraid that a little state intervention or efficiency might apparently jeopardize that. I want to compliment Senator Wesely for bringing this program to us. It may not save us any money, actually. We may end up spending more money to provide the services that the state needs to provide. Having said that and having disagreed with Senator Chambers' fundamental argument, I think that his suggestion of regional involvement is a good idea and I support his amendment. I just cannot accept his arguments in favor of it. So I think his amendment is good and urge its adoption.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Matzke. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, for the sake of argument let me accept as valid everything that Senator Matzke said, that my arguments have... I'm going to go beyond what he said, they have no merit, no rationality whatsoever, that the state is already paying the lion's share for these programs and the counties are putting in a pittance. All right, I'll buy that. Here is the Jolly Roger or the false flag that I say these bills are flying when they call themselves property tax relief. Remember, the counties are only putting in a pittance. This is the first line of LB 1059: "The Legislature finds that property tax revenue is used to partially support various health and human services programs, including", then it mentions these programs. Nothing is dishonest about that; nothing is false. Property tax revenue does partially support. But it's designed to give the impression that it's a substantial part of the support. And by taking it from the counties and