

jailed and didn't need to be jailed, had committed no crime. And that region which was supposed to have that in place by January 1, 1991, after we passed the bill in 1987, so there was a four-year lead time, they did not meet that goal. That was not requiring any funding on the part of the counties. That was totally funded by the state of Nebraska and, yet, because that regional administrator and that governing board could not bring together the people in those local communities, that local control we're looking for, they could not get the local people to work together, we went until 1995 when, finally, we were able to get that job done. And I'm proud of what they did. I think it's wonderful. It's worked well, but it took us eight years to get the job done. That's because the system we have in place is not the system that you would want to have to have an efficient, coordinated system in place to deliver services. If you want to get everybody working together, this is exactly the opposite system you want to have in place because you have everybody in control, and nobody in control. The state puts the money up, the federal government puts the money up, but the counties are in there controlling the staffing and the offices, and that is a system destined to have conflict, as we talked about, and the conflict has been there from the beginning. It's been discussed and talked about. Now I want to point out for you, you've got the one colored map which shows how the...we can't even get the boundaries of the regions to coincide. We had a bill last year. We couldn't get the bill out of committee. They didn't even want to have their boundaries so they could voluntarily work together. They objected to that potential that we would have if we could get the boundaries pulled together. And I just wanted to show you how they're not that...that is that far apart. Out in the Panhandle in Senator Hillman's district, it's all united right now, yet, even they opposed any effort that would lead them down the path to where they might end up having to work together. And I think that's outrageous. I think in today's day and age, with the restraints on spending, we've got to find ways to be efficient and cooperate. If you look at the other...the next set of handouts which talks about today and tomorrow, under LB 1044 and the current structure, what you see is five different agencies involved with services and health and human services. All of them but the Department of Social Services and Office of Juvenile Services work through these regional governing boards, with the county board having representatives, and then they hire the staff involved with the regions. There's also the region that the Social Services