

April 1, 1996

LB 1044, 1059

in place. Then we have a variety, and in some cases dozens of offices set out to then administer some of these programs and then, in other cases, hundreds of service sites that deliver the services. What I am suggesting is the service sites we should continue so they are dispersed across the state. That is wise, having providers scattered around the state, that is good. But, it is the administrative functions that, in my view, don't need to be dispersed to so many different offices and can't, I think, benefit from a...have to benefit from a consolidation. So, I have also passed out again, a chart I gave to you last week that shows the current system, the system under 1044 and the system that would be in place if 1059 was put into place. Streamlining the system, working through a streamlined regional system into the community, is what I think we want to accomplish. So with that I am asking for your support for the amendment. It reduces the cost to the program, it streamlines the service system, and accomplishes many of the goals and some of the other things that we tried to accomplish with the bill we will have to wait for a later date. But with that, I'd ask for your support for the amendment and be ready to answer any questions you may have.

SPEAKER WITHEM PRESIDING

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Dierks, on the Wesely amendment.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if I can ask Senator Wesely a question?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wesely, will you respond?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes.

SENATOR DIERKS: Senator Wesely, when I am looking at your handout here, you have...I need a little better explanation, I guess, of what the first part, you say the funded by amendment, this amendment that you are talking about is 20...4263?

SENATOR WESELY: Right.

SENATOR DIERKS: And that means that these items are going to be funded where the original 1059 they were not?

SENATOR WESELY: They were...both were funded by 1059. Only