

can do a good job. On the other hand, there have been instances where they haven't done a good job. Sometimes there have been serious problems. The one problem for sure is if you are trying to bring all the pieces of a system together but each piece is controlled by somebody else, it is really hard to get the job done, and I'm suggesting it is time to recognize that difficulty and if we want to streamline it, we have got to take this step.

SENATOR JONES: Um-hum. Would you be in favor of just taking the disability out of it and leave that with the county? After the three years?

SENATOR WESELY: Well, that is another point. As we work through this, over the next three years, there is the opportunity if we feel that this isn't where we want to go we can back out of it too. I mean, that is possible, but I do think ultimately this is the direction we need to take and we need to start working on it and see how it would fit together. I think you will be pleased with the results once we make that effort. Also, for your local input, let me tell you, if you don't mind me taking a minute of your time, Senator Jones. But one of the things that we have been thinking about is the regional structure that we have, which now is the local input into the system, is really not where people think of in terms of their communities. I don't think a lot of people even know there is a regional governing board determining their services. They don't know what that is. They know their county, they know their city, they know their community, but they don't know the region. That is something that...and so there is not an accountability to the local people, there is not an accountability to us, as much as I would like. As I said, I had trouble getting information, so it is kind of a wonderful world in some ways to be out there because nobody is quite sure who is in charge and what is going on. I am suggesting that clear authority and a clear line...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...of command will cut down costs and then you can direct yourself into the community and work with the communities to come up with solutions where people really do feel that they know each other and know their problems. We shouldn't be fighting at the regional level. We should be fighting our battles to help families and problems at the