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LB 105

here that I'm suggesting, what you will have is a housing authority that operates in that regard very much like the ones that exist. We put back into the bill the language that's currently there for housing authorities. We took out everything that represented and seemed to encourage an expanded view of the offerings of social programs, jobs, et cetera, et cetera. We eliminated the language, for example, that authorizes them to be involved in programs of every kind and description to advance the social, educational, and economic well-being, and the economic and social self-sufficiency of persons receiving housing assistance so as to create wholesome living environments, eliminate long-term poverty, encourage gainful employment, develop social and economic self-sufficiency, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera. And it reverts back more to the philosophy that this particular kind of institution, which is the owner of assets, is limited in our philosophy to the providing of housing. And to the extent that there will be other things...other social programs associated with it, that should be coordinated by and under the directive of social services who, of course, is the one who has the job of looking overall at persons needing assistance and can be a better judge as to what additional programs may be fair and equitable to give to persons that happen to be receiving housing benefits. Remember that not all people get housing benefits. In different geographic areas, there may even be differences between local housing agencies; there certainly will be differences. So the people who are on those programs are going to be benefitting more than people who aren't able to get on those programs. And if you then expand those kinds of inequities to other kinds of social programs provided by housing authorities, then you are expanding the inequities. So everything in this amendment pertains to that concept and idea, and I hope it also meets with your approval. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Beutler. On the Beutler amendment to LB 105, Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, as Senator Jones spoke so eloquently on the last amendment, it's probably going to be a long time before...before I'm going to be real happy to talk about housing authorities again. We have spent a lot of time, we've gone a long way with a lot of people, on this particular