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SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, very much, Lieutenant Governor. I don't know that I have anything to necessarily add to the comments that have been made by Senator Thompson, Senator Wickersham, Senator Raikes and others, but I just want to reiterate my concerns about what we're doing here. It seems that when we are in an environment of trying to figure out how we can provide services to all people in the most efficient manner possible, as economically as possible, good services, that it is inconsistent to carve out one area like this and establish again a separate level of government, a separate agency, if you will, a separate bureaucracy which, in my view, will soak up more of those valuable dollars that could be used for all people who are in need of services. I don't know if a bill comes up next year or the year after, the year after that with respect to another group of people who have...who are disadvantaged, whether it be the deaf or some other handicap, that I will be able to look at them and say, well, you need to stay within the system and the framework, you do not need to have your separate agency, your separate director and so forth, and I don't know that I could tell them that, if we do this legislation. I also have concerns about the fiscal implications that Senator Wickersham spoke about, which is the second level of fiscal concern. The first fiscal concern is, are we doing...simply doing something here that's going to use more money for administration, more money that could be used for actual delivery of services to people who need them, to set up a separate bureaucratic process? I cannot believe that there are not ways to help make sure that we deliver the best services possible, as government, to those who are blind without carving out a separate agency. I just can't...I just can't accept that no matter what the good intentions are. I can't...I can't be sold on that, and so I'm not going to be able to support the bill. And I do urge each of you to examine whether or not supporting this bill is consistent with what we are trying to do with respect to state government and the use of our dollars in the best manner possible. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Lynch, followed by Senator Crosby, Schimek, Tyson, Hartnett, and Bourne. Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. Chairman and members, I rise in strong