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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 90, 312, 425

and misfortunate people. I just happened to glance over there and see Senator Byars standing, and he has constantly, during all the time that I've been here and when he was here, because I was here when he was not--he's a youngster by comparison--has worked to get assistance for people who are disabled, developmentally, mentally, those that usually are so much on the fringe that they're not even thought about unless somebody brings them up specifically. But he has worked assiduously to help those groups. Senator Flood has talked about the closing of the Norfolk Regional Center. Some have talked about closing of other facilities. These clinics deal directly with people who need their help. This is, if you want to use language from an old commercial, where the rubber meets the road for the people we're interested in. Some have no place else to turn. I regret that we have to beg for a pittance to help people where there is no disagreement as to their need, and we come in here begging after just voting for a bill this morning, LB 312, and a companion bill, LB 90, giving away tens and tens of millions of dollars, and we cannot even get them to give us information about whether these companies I'm talking about provide healthcare, the type, and so forth. And all we're talking about is a pittance. I'm kind of surprised that the Chairperson of the Appropriations Committee would capitulate so quickly on the work of the committee in such a crucial area of need simply because the Governor said, well, I don't agree with you and I'm going to cut that out, and I think you did a good job.

SENATOR BAKER: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Because he did compliment the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee. The Governor has complimented me on occasion, but it hasn't swayed me from doing what I think is right. The first thought that the committee had was the right thought. The first act that the committee placed was the right act. And we're going to let one man deter us from doing that which we should on a matter such as this. I would be deeply disappointed if the Legislature went in that direction. I believe we should override and I think that we will, but I'll listen to the debate and see what direction the body seems to be going. Thank you, Mr. President.