

April 1, 1996

LB 1044, 1059

come up with a plan, work with Senator Wesely. I guess I think the cart is ahead of the horse. That is the feeling I get. That...I don't know, I agree with him on a lot of things and...but it seems to me we are trying to tell those people what to do, that's the people in charge of 1044. Now I might be wrong, but that is the way I look at this bill. So, thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you Senator, Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: I'd call the question.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Do I see five hands? I see five hands. The question before you is shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, to cease debate.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Debate ceases. The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely to close on his amendment.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Madam President and members, I appreciate the discussion. Let me again reiterate what I'm trying to do. I'm trying to reduce the fiscal note on the bill from about \$21 million down to \$7 million; also trying to focus in on what I think really needs to be done this year to follow up on LB 1044 and not do the bigger bite with the bigger changes that are involved, but I do think we will have to revisit those issues in the future. Let me reiterate for you essentially why I think it is so vital. We did 1044, I am very pleased that the body adopted and we passed that piece of legislation. Senator Hillman went through talking about these programs and how we have got parallel systems providing mental health services and parallel systems providing administration. They clearly needed to be done, in my view, I know that some of you opposed it and you are concerned about that, I appreciate that, but I do think we all recognize that the imperfect system we have could use some improvement and that is why the Legislature, the majority went ahead with the passage of 1044. That's the state. The problem is as we talked about the state agencies coming together, we kind of neglected to talk about the rest of the story, and the rest of the story is each one of those agencies, with the exception of juvenile services actually, but the rest of those agencies, the other four, have got a regional delivery system with regional offices, but they are located at