

March 25, 1974

SENATOR STAHMER: Right, in other words, I think it would be the differential between the \$3,000,000 and whatever we plug in here.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: The Appropriations Committee is now looking at LB302 as an addition to this appropriation rather than this being the appropriation to implement LB302, isn't that correct?

SENATOR STAHMER: That's correct. This was not intended to implement LB302.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Okay. Well, if you have a different feeling on it.

PRESIDENT: Do you have further questions, Senator Cavanaugh?

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Well, Senator Marvel feels that he has a different slant on his interpretation of what the Appropriations Committee is doing here.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marvel.

SENATOR MARVEL: It's my understanding that you have...all of you have an amendment...a committee amendment which will be discussed later and on page 3 of that committee amendment, it talks about \$1,500,000 which would be distributed to the regions and then down below, it says in addition the director of public institutions shall have and that figure should be \$1,625,000 for discretionary use to implement and maintain Community Health programs. I guess the point I would first make that even if that LB302 were passed, I don't think it could possibly utilize as it got into operation \$3,000,000. That's the first point I'd make. Second point, Senator Cavanaugh, and this is my interpretation, it may differ with Senator Stahmers, that \$1,500,000 that is definitely spelled out to regents could be used as far as the Community Mental Health Centers are concerned. In addition to that, this \$1,625,000 could also at the discretion of the department go to this category so you would have a potential of a little over \$3,000,000. You are moving from a per capita of \$2.00 per patient which is the formula at the moment to basically a 75-25, 75 state, 25 local formula. So I guess in summary I'd say there's enough flexibility and enough money in this appropriations bill to take care of the decentralization of Mental Health whether LB302 passes or not.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: So your feeling would be that LB302, the money needed to fund LB302, the \$3,000,000 original fiscal estimate on LB302 would not or should not be in addition to this appropriation and that this should be the total appropriation for Mental Health this year.

SENATOR MARVEL: That's right.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Okay, thank you.

PRESIDENT: Message from the Governor. Clerk will read.

CLERK: Read message from Governor.

(End of Belt #5A)