

March 25, 1974

everyone else here pay a little attention to how the Appropriations Committee is appropriating this with regard to LB302. I haven't straightened it out in my own mind as to what the problem is here but I don't think that it.... it does not appear to me that the appropriations amendment takes care of the problem. Because if LB302 were to pass, it would require a different distribution and a different philosophy, I believe, than what the Appropriations Committee is doing here. And whether or not the distribution by regions as they set out here is adequate I don't think has been justified here. What LB302 does is distribute on a 75-25 matching basis with local expenditures. This is a...the Appropriations Committee has done it on ...originally on a population basis and then apparently cut that in half and left the floating funds to take care of the established Regional Centers. Now whether you need \$1.6 or how much of that money would go to the Regional Centers and how much would go to Community Programs, I think it needs to be more clearly specified than the Budget Committee has done so far. Because I have no idea how much that \$1.6 the Regional Centers would absorb and that, of course, would affect how much was left for Community Programs and the original estimate was that the Community Programs could absorb \$1 million. Now if we put \$1.6 million in the Regional Centers, that's \$1.6 million less for the Community Programs. And I think everybody should be aware of that and I don't think we should accept what the Appropriations Committee has done here. But at the present time I don't have a recommendation but anyone else who is interested, I think should take a serious look at it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marvel, did you want the floor?

SENATOR MARVEL: I simply want to answer Senator Cavanaugh to this extent that all of the questions that have come out as a result of this, the staff has recorded. And the staff will try to come up with the recomm.....with an amendment that reflects these questions and then if this doesn't answer, then we can proceed from there. But they're trying to come up with an overall mental health amendment to the appropriations bill. And anyone who is interested is welcome to get in on the act, so to speak.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stahmer and then Senator Nore.

SENATOR STAHMER: Senator Cavanaugh, if you could try to plug in a little on what you just said. In the first place, the Budget Committee cannot appropriate for a bill such as LB302 anymore than we could have appropriated for ADC unless a substantive bill is passed. What you have here, I think is in the \$1.5 million would be about one-half of the cost of implementing LB302. If LB302 were passed and the Budget Committee can't know whether it's going to pass or not. No one even underlined the thing. If it were passed, I think it would take at least another \$1.5 million over this \$1.5 million to plug it in. But we can't budget on a bill that we don't know whether it's going to pass or not. Well, oh, the Regional Centers are taking a hell of a lot more than \$1.6. This \$1.6 we peeled off of the original bill to put back in the Regional Centers is perhaps 15% to 20%. There's perhaps \$20 million in these Regional Centers. I'd have to go back through the bill.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: This is additional...this \$1.6 million is in addition to.....