

April 1, 1974

(Start Belt #11A)

some of these funds, approximately one half of them, so instead of being held in reserve to be utilized by the Office of Mental Retardation in the six mental...five of the six Mental Retardation Units across the State for the advancement of programs because of some of the increase costs they are running into, and have come up with some additional problems just within the last three or four weeks since we drew up our budget. Now to try to recapitulate, we held in reserve monies not to be spent, cash monies coming in from the school districts. Something in the neighborhood of \$900,000. This would take \$425,000 of that, and allow it to be utilized by these Office of Mental Retardation units to allow for the expansion of some programs and to also allow for the meeting of some new deficits that they are running into. It would take no additional General funds. It would just be utilizing these reserves to amount shown. And I would move for the adoption of the amendment. I do have a substitute that more clearly clarifies this it. I would like to have it sent down to the Clerk. It is basically the same dollar amounts with slightly different wording. I will send this down, right now.

PRESIDENT: You want to withdraw your original...

SENATOR STAHMER: Yes, it is the same dollar amount shown in the other amendments. And it's for the same purpose.

PRESIDENT: The original amendment is withdrawn, and your other-one substituted. Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: A question of Senator Stahmer. If he would please.

SENATOR STAHMER: Yes.

SENATOR BARNETT: Dave, does this...I think I heard you say and I'm trying to find it in there, that the Mentally retarded, and also the blind, and the deaf, all this is inclusive? Or did I hear you wrong.

SENATOR STAHMER: No, this is just for the Office of the Mental Retardation. Their six regional units. Six regional units.

SENATOR BARNETT: Six regional Units.

SENATOR STAHMER: Your region units...your region and region five would get an additional \$95,000...\$90,000 to \$95,000 for the programs in their area.

SENATOR BARNETT: But what we're saying, and what you are saying to the experience is that the blind and the deaf are O.K. You don't need to bring them....

SENATOR STAHMER: Well, no. This...it's...we were holding money in reserve. We were holding 100% of all the monies that the school districts are going to pay into these schools in reserve. In truth, we don't really need to hold that much of a reserve. Number one, it would be the ultimate. It would be terrific if we did, but actually, fiscally we're safe in still doing this, and to meet the needs that have come up in this office of Mental Retardation area. We are utilizing half of these reserves. The