

January 22, 1979

SENATOR MURPHY: About a year ago there was a good deal of push by Mr. Shimek and educational forces to commit this state to public radio to be handled by the school systems of the state. Is that correct?

SENATOR KOCH: I heard that bill and I know that the N.S.E.A. supported it but I wasn't aware of the fact that they expected the public schools to operate those stations. Public radio as I understand it, would be associated and possibly attached to ETV and that commission and that type of a staff would be the ones that would be responsible for programming, not the public schools although they were an endorser of public radio.

SENATOR MURPHY: Would you object to an amendment that would bring this bill back to the issue of radio services? Senator Stoney raised an excellent point, a question that I had in my own mind. We are giving D.P.I. under this proposition, an open-end contract to contract for services without any definition whatsoever and I think possibly that is a latitude that should not be given to any agency of government and I would like to bring this back into, if you will excuse the expression, focus on the issue of radio services, reading radio services for the blind and handicapped. I would like to offer an amendment to that effect if you have no objection.

SENATOR KOCH: As I understand, Senator Murphy, that this would be under the division that handles visually impaired services within the D.P.I. That is where the contract would be drawn.

SENATOR MURPHY: That may be but under this bill we are giving them an open-end contract to engage in anything, not to be limited to, and I would like to replace that restriction particularly in view of the fact that D.A.S. has not had their opportunity to offer their fiscal impact. They say it was too short of notice so really we have only one statement on it that does not include the handicapped and with an open-end contract I have no idea where in the world this thing ultimately could go. Now if I understand our rules properly we say that any bill, that an A bill shall accompany each bill through each stage of consideration and I would assume that on that basis we will hold this bill on General File and when the A bill does arrive I would like to offer that amendment, Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Senator Murphy, I understand that normally