

passed last year. United States Senator Exon vetoed it and sent it back to us and now we have got to do it all over again. No, Senator Lewis, it is not going to cost \$10,000,000 in four years like you indicate. It is going to cost \$11,000,000 plus the inflationary rate of increase. What this is designed to do, frankly, this amendment, is to put the bill in a position where you have got to kill it. It will not pass over a veto. We proved that a couple of years in a row. Now, I would like to correct one figure that Senator Warner put out and, Senator Warner, I want to be sure you listen, the next year, for example, considering that this is effective, it says commencing on July 1, 1979. That is when the first increase or take over of a 2½% so therefore it would be 2.7% next...2.7 million dollars next year, not the five or six million you were talking about. Well when we get to that point way out there that is conjecture way out there. Let's don't be worrying about that. You said next year and that is what we are talking about, how much the cost is next year. Now, Senator Warner, also the other point that you made was you say we put a 7% lid on the state and we are going to live religiously within that lid. I think that is a great idea. If I was still in the budget committee I would support you wholeheartedly. The only trouble is at the same time we do that we mandate a program and that is what payment of Medicaid is. It is a federal state mandate that the counties shall pay for this program, 20% of it and the program cost goes up. In Lancaster County, for example, it went up 34%. In Douglas County it went up something like 26%. Now how can we mandate a program on the counties that increases and they have no control on the cost. All they can do is just pay the bill. The cost of the program goes up 25% and we expect them to live under a 7% mandate. Well, fine. We can live under the mandate as long as we pass the increases on to them. I would wholeheartedly suggest that we not adopt the Frank Lewis amendment because of the fact that it is designed specifically to get the bill vetoed which will kill the bill. Thank you, Senator Lewis.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: Mr. President, I rise to support Senator Lewis' amendment but I would correct one figure that he has thrown out as about what the cost would be in four years. He says it would be \$10,000,000. I worked with the fiscal office to see if there was some way to rearrange