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LB 138

the cost and so on and I asked them to put in an inflationary factor based on experience and the experience that the Department of Welfare has projected is a 20% increase per year in the cost of this program and what Senator Goodrich has indicated as far as past history in certain counties would indicate that that seems fairly realistic and although I am pleased to see Senator Goodrich is so aware of the rising cost of health care and its impact on the state, I don't think that even with certain strong measures that we may take this session that we are going to be able to turn this cost around that dramatically. So that the 20% a year in four years, what we are talking about is \$20,000,000 being added to the state budget for us to add to the share of Medicaid that we already pick up. I think that that is an important point that we ought to look at as well. We seem to be talking like the state itself is not involved in this program and it is and the increases that certainly the counties feel will also be increases that will be felt upon the state budget. Now I realize that with the 7% lid the counties certainly have problems making budgetary decisions and budgetary priorities but the state has those problems as well. We don't have necessarily a statutory lid but we seem to have had, at least as long as I have been in the Legislature, a basic political rule or a lid that is established based on existing tax rates and now within that we are talking about the state should be morally obligated to fall within 7% as well. Well there is no way that we could do either and live with Senator Lewis' amendment and I think that that is part of the point Senator Lewis is trying to make but suppose we stretch it out over four years. How, then could we stay within our lid, existing tax rates or how could we stay within 7% and pick up almost double the portion that we are paying in this area? This is a point that I think Senator Warner is trying to make. Senator Nichol and Kahle says, we can live with it. We can work it out over the next four years, picking these \$20,000,000 up but they haven't said specifically how can we live with it. Will they rise and stand in support of raise in Nebraska state taxes? Will the majority of this Legislature say that we are picking this up for the counties and that we will do that and pay, require higher taxes to be paid or will they somehow hope that the Appropriations Committee will find places within the state budget to take that money? Now this year, we put out of the Appropriations Committee a bill that we are calling a supplemental bill and these are some of the things that we wanted to fund but we wanted to leave the choice to this Legislature as to whether or not they should

3722