

February 22, 1980

LB 773

to create a coordinating commission placed under the Office of Programming and Planning, however, in looking at the option the commission met only one time and did actually nothing in terms of trying to coordinate services for those people with handicaps. LB 773 is a bill that specifically defines that these agencies shall work together and shall present an annual plan to the Clerk of the Legislature, to the Appropriations Committee, to the Education Committee and a copy to the Governor of how they have developed plans to serve the handicapped, to what extent they are serving them and helping them to work together. I think that this is a right step and a good direction. I would ask, first of all, for the committee amendment to be adopted which merely defines to a further extent that the annual plan as developed by these agencies shall be presented to the chairman of the Education Committee, the legislative Fiscal Office and to the Governor and that is what the amendment is. I ask for the adoption of the amendment to the committee bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, the motion is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 773. Senator Wesely's light is on and Senator Newell's light is on. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I would just like to lend very quickly my support for LB 773. As part of the LR 137 study over the interim which several members of the Legislature participated in, we found that there was a great need for better coordination of services and programs for the developmentally disabled and handicapped and retarded in this state. LB 773 takes a step toward trying to provide that coordination. It should in the end help us to provide better services more efficiently and certainly that is a very important need in the state today and so I think this is a good step to take and hopefully the bill will pass and we will see some action taken.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 773. All those in favor of that motion vote aye, opposed no. We are voting on the committee amendments to 773 as explained by Senator Koch. Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of the committee amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Koch.