

April 1, 1980

LB 773

Senator Koch. Senator Keyes, your light is on. Senator Murphy, do you...your light is on.

SENATOR MURPHY: If I may, Senator Koch. on the day that motion came up, I suggested that the motion be laid over until such time as you could be returned to this body, and it was on motion of a member of your committee who offered, helpfully I am sure he thought, to handle it in your absence, but it was my recommendation that the bill initially that that motion be laid over. Now we are talking about providing a bonus to two of the largest funded agencies in this state who have been told several years ago to do what this bill once more tells them to do. I suggest you look at the group of people who make up this coordinating body and almost without exception they are all on the state payroll today. Now I realize the Department of Education is sorely underfunded and that they have no slack time. They only have 750 employees over there, half of whom are busy. The Department of Institutions has a budget of \$73,000,000. This Legislature said, do it. Now the Coordinating Commission, the University and the state colleges, when we tell them to do something, decide not to do it. And I mean, who are you people to give orders to people like that. The alcoholism people and the Department of Education have no intention of carrying out the directions that we have given them in statute, even though they are funded. And now we have two other major agencies of this state who have people bugging out the door and the way to get them to do what you told them to do...three years ago which falls plainly within the category of the charge that exists in this state now, inasmuch as they have refused to do this, the answer is, give them more money and then, by golly, I'll bet they do it. This is not only throwing good money after bad, it establishes a precedent that is unfortunate, to reward two state agencies whose principal concern is the matter in this bill by giving them more money because they have refused to do what they had been mandated to do by statute, to me is a very different kind of legislation. I oppose Senator Koch's motion to return this bill, restore this money and reward those who flatly sit in their offices and thumb their nose at this Legislature and its work.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the return of the bill to Select File for the specific amendment as explained by Senator Koch. All those in favor of that motion vote aye, opposed vote no. Senator Chambers.