

amendments which have now been withdrawn that the Public Health Committee has discussed the issues involved with that bill and they do relate peripherally to LB 317 and I have talked to some committee members just today and there certainly is a commitment on the part of the committee to look into the situation as far as the regions that we have now servicing in this area, and so I am quite convinced the committee is serious about looking at the matter, and we pledge our cooperation with Senator Lamb to come up with some solution to this problem over the interim. So I certainly want to thank Senator Lamb for withdrawing those amendments and we certainly will be looking into the matter further.

**SPEAKER MARVEL:** The Chair recognizes Senator Koch to close. Okay. Senator Cope, do you wish to be recognized?

**SENATOR COPE:** Yes. Mr. President and members a question of Senator Koch.

**SENATOR KOCH:** Yes, sir.

**SENATOR COPE:** Senator Koch, in looking over the testimony and also the correspondence I have had it seems that it is rather the friction between two groups of schools and the regions. Now explain to me why. I mean that would make a difference I am sure in my decision.

**SENATOR KOCH:** If you will look in your book, you will look at opponents and proponents and sometimes it is rather misleading. The biggest problems of the regional organizations was funding, and they were concerned that their budget is different than schools and they would go through a process whereby they wouldn't get the dollars that were necessary to provide the residential care that might be forthcoming. And, of course, I advised them that we could do like we do the schools, we could always deficit appropriate and that is neat for schools but not always appropriate for agencies. However, I think we resolved this because we are putting an A bill with it that says we are going to distribute among those regions based upon the best count we have, approximately 86 students, that they will be given by region the dollars that I have mentioned in my testimony, which amounts to about \$383,510, which I believe is more than ample based upon the present conditions. That should resolve the problem. By the way, I have talked to Mr. Paul, I have talked to some of the county people, and they now are in support primarily of the bill. They have no strong resistance to it, as long as the dollars are there to