

They just couldn't get the money through. Both John Knight, who actually brought the bill to Senator Schmit and I and worked with us on it, and supported it and now Gina Dunning who supports the program, worked with us to try and figure out a way to do this and Gina finally was able to find a way. Because we are serving the same kind of people under Title 20 money, instead of spending to help these people a more costly way, she diverted \$100,000 to help them in the less costly way, a more efficient way and help more people with less money and put \$100,000 of federal money into the program. Now this bill, all it does is say the program has worked and it has. It will continue because it ought to and that is all that the bill really does and also changes some definitional things. The question of how it is funded and how much it is funded will all be debated and decided in the appropriations bill through the work of Senator Warner and the Appropriations Committee. That issue will come up at a later date. At this point the budgeting issue of how much and where from the money is on the program, that is not really tied into the bill other than the bill does have a program that will need to be funded eventually. So the bill will sit on Final Reading. We will wait to hear what the Appropriations Committee wants to do. I will work with Senator Warner on it and we can resolve all those issues at one time rather than dealing with them now when we can't really take any action on the funding side of it. With that, I hope I haven't thoroughly confused you, but let me again emphasize how important this program is. People from across the state have been benefited. It is a cost effective means of helping people. It keeps families together rather than splitting them apart. It keeps people working instead of making them quit work so they can keep their tax supported benefits. And this is a sort of God, apple pie and motherhood issue that I hope many of you recognize as very valuable to this state, so I would ask your support in advancing the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay, please. Have you all voted that care to? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 3 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to advance the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: LB 87 advances. LB 252.