

Institutions doesn't have. The State Institution when they have needs have got to come to the State Legislature and get state funding. They don't have property taxes to turn to.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: Community based programs do have that extra option and they do have a \$6.8 million savings. We are not going to try, although I have thought about, to find a 3.7 percent increase in fees for the counties which they don't want to pay for institutional care. So they do have a full 6.8 reduction. I think that they ought to recognize that they have a tremendous advantage taxwise with this relief they are receiving and I think these programs are worthy of support and that support ought to come out of the savings that the counties are receiving through the Medicaid takeover. It is a responsibility that they have as well as the state and I think we ought to utilize some of that savings through the Medicaid takeover to fund these additional programs. So let's not rob Peter to pay Paul. Let's not cut from the institutional budget to have community based programs. Let's support both.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Warner please.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose this specific solution to the issue that Senator DeCamp and Senator Lynch are trying to address. I recognize and acknowledge, I should say, that it would be a correct statement, as has been said before, that as far as the community mental health and the alcohol-drug abuse programs that the presumption was that the passage of 280 and its A bill as it was originally introduced and carried on for quite a ways was taken into account when developing the budget, and as a result, those two programs were not given additional general fund in the belief of the probability that they were going to have relief otherwise. Well, of course, as we all know because of a number of things that occurred, their funding is now flat. I have a problem with this approach in that there is a little over \$900,000 increase in the Department of Institutions. One of our amendments that will be offered later for reduction will take \$98,000 of that out. And then in addition the salary increases which or rather the percentage increase that the institution was to have, the agency was to have, was about 2.7, 3 percent, somewhere in there. But in any event, of