

SENATOR GOODRICH: Senator Conway, I understand from what Senator Hefner said you are taking \$100,000 from Region 6 to give it to Region 4, is that the sum and substance of your amendment?

SENATOR CONWAY: Yes, in essence that is the amendment.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Would you give us a little rationale as to why you should take from Region 6 to give to Region 4?

SENATOR CONWAY: I think now when I opened...my opening remarks not all the handouts were all the way back. I think if you'll look at a handout that has a bar graph on the front of it, which was prepared for us, as you note the balance of the six regions across, and you'll also see that the regional averages on the cost per client. As Senator Hefner mentioned, under the Fair Labor Standards Act, one of the things was that Region 4 was paying some of their personnel considerably less than what they have to under the Fair Labor Standard Act. So we have about a \$100,000 shortfall in bringing that up to standard. If you'll also notice under Region 6, they are at \$26,032 per client as compared to \$13,000 in Region 4. Through most of the studies in the report there is really no justification. If you are going to move towards any kind of a balance at all, and this is a long ways from a balance, but if there is any type of balance at all, you can see where Region 6 significantly has a much greater funding classification than the average and is certainly the one that if anyone was to give up any would be the one that would ordinarily do that. So that is why the request.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Okay. Now I want the body to understand that the Appropriations Committee is going to take up a thorough study of the distribution of mental retardation monies during the course of this summer. I, frankly...this comes as a complete surprise to me that somebody is even going to try this. So I had not prepared any statistical data to support my position that we should oppose this particular motion. But what it boils down to is that without planning ahead of time for these kind of cuts in any region, I don't care whether it is Region 4, Region 6 or Region 1, 2, 3, or whatever it is, you should be in a position to plan these things ahead of time. Here we are, at the end of May we are going to be within 30 days into