

support mental retardation. Region 4, who thinks it is so funny that they are trying to steal admittedly \$100,000 from Region 6, gives 6.9 percent. What they won't admit is they don't believe in their county supporting mental retardation. They believe in the rest of the state supporting them. So let us give to Region 4 so their county can save their money. We serve more severely retarded than Region 4. We have the vocational rehabilitation for them. We have the residential, the community based programs for them. So I'm asking you senators...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR HIGGINS: ...if you are going to deal with something, deal with it up front, but don't just come up at the last minute, eight twenty-three now it is, everybody is tired, and pull the rug out from under somebody,...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR HIGGINS: ...and admittedly call yourselves thieves and laugh and joke about it. I assure you, Senator Conway and Senator DeCamp, if the parents of those retarded children in Region 6 were to lose that funding, which came out of their pockets because they are the taxpayers that help put in that 14 percent, they won't think it is funny when their child isn't brought into one of our vocational rehabilitation programs because we just got axed \$100,000, stolen from us. Retarded children are retarded children no matter what region they live in. The question is, how much do you believe in helping them? I don't know if anybody else here cares about right is right and fair is fair. But if they are going to want more state dollars, let them double the amount of their county dollars. As Senator Lynch pointed out, this chart is a hypothetical chart. It isn't even factual. I'm amazed that a college teacher would come up with it, I really am. I'm amazed even more though that Conway and DeCamp think this is humorous. I don't think it is a bit funny. I sincerely hope that the rest of the body will consider it as a very unfair way because when today Conway and DeCamp try to steal \$100,000 from Region 6, Carson Rogers, what do you think might happen to your region or another region one day if they get away with this today? I'm just asking you, if they can do this at the last minute, when the hour is late and most people aren't paying attention, when do you think your turn is going to come?