

would take \$5.9 million to fully fund it. Now what I am asking for is \$1,270,000. Now I would like to explain to you a couple of areas how this would work. Now in Region III, in the Hastings, Grand Island, Kearney area, which services 343 people, and would have received 1.2 million increase, where Region VI, which serves a total of 656 people, would have received \$725,000 increase. Now the problem is we don't have the \$5 million. But you will notice there is quite a difference in that. One of the reasons is that Region VI, according to the model, had received considerably more money in past years. Now basically my proposal has two parts. The first part consists of \$992,384. It is based upon what would happen if we would take the current funding of these regional programs and divide it up, based upon the percentage of what each of these regions would receive all of the money we need, the 5.9 million. Then I made sure that none of the regional programs would be hurt in this distribution. So whereas redistribution would put one of the regions in the hole, I say that wouldn't be fair at all. I don't feel we should cut them.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: One minute.

SENATOR SIECK: Then the second part of my proposal adds an additional \$277,749 on top of the 992,000. I've divided that up based up the percentage that each of the regions would receive if there were already statewide equity. So in the end with my proposal everyone wins. Region III, which has always been the most underfunded, would receive an increase of 416,000, and Region VI, which relatively has more appropriations, received an increase of \$80,000 which would help them out greatly in the next year. Now I want to emphasize that I don't think any region is overfunded. I just wish we had the 5.9 million necessary to fully fund everybody. I even want to commend Region VI because they started service earlier, back in the late sixties, before anyone else did. They have worked for and received good funding.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Ten seconds.

SENATOR SIECK: Their counties have provided the most support, so I think it is time to be fair to them and to everyone else and work towards full funding. I believe my proposal does this, so I encourage you to recommend this proposal.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Senator Sieck. Senator Warner, you are scheduled to speak next. Would you like to give your