

which is very correct and just.

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp, did you want to call the question? There are no other lights to speak, we will not need to go through the procedure. Did you wish to speak, Senator Landis? Okay, we will not need to go through the procedure then. The Chair will recognize Senator Warner to close. This is on the single line-item of the mental retardation aid, Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, one of the concerns that always comes up in these issues of overrides is the order of motions. But what I would like to urge that you consider, the fact that this is in the order that it is, does not make it of lesser importance. These are very appropriate programs that are being funded. We have in the process of overriding state operations provided ample, although not elaborate funding, for those institutions operating for the state that provide services for comparable needs and, finally, I would suggest that if we used the concept of health and had applied it to this issue that it would have had the same logic as some of the others. But, as I indicated earlier, it was the decision of the committee to separate out floor amendments because they had been adopted by the floor as a whole rather than a part of the original budget and probably should properly be addressed that way in terms of overrides. I am particularly interested in this, not so much with the dollar amount, although that is obviously significant, but I am particularly interested in it because we will, with this adoption, we will leave behind us the method of distributing funds between regions to one of rationale and away from one of negotiation. And it seems to me that in the long run as a matter of state policy to be able to identify needs and to appropriate funds to meet those needs even though the appropriation is less than the needs identified, at least there will be a much greater sense of equity about what the state is doing than has been the case in the past, not that it was not done well, but we were always aware that there were some needs in some regions that did not have the ability to be met as equitably or as well as others. There is great diversity between regions as to the types of programs they have and in the absence of some kind of a formula for measuring those different types of programs, it is essentially very difficult to arrive at what is the appropriate amount as well as distribution and I would urge you override this veto to place in as a matter of precedent for future appropriations a more appropriate method for distributing funds for these programs.