

APPROPRIATIONS - FINANCE & CLAIMS

SUB-COMMITTEE: HUMAN SERVICES

FEBRUARY 16, 1979 - CAPITOL ANNEX

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 a.m. by Chairman Steve Waldron with the following members present:

Chairman Steve Waldron  
Senator Gary Aklestad  
Representative Bill Hand  
Representative Robert Marks  
Senator Pat Regan  
Senator Pete Story

Others present were: Keith Colbo, Director of SRS; Holly Luck, Chief of the Aging Service; Ben Johns, Deputy Director of the Office of Administration; Richard Hulme, Chief Budget Officer for SRS; Ron Weiss, OBPP; Linda Gamble, OBPP; Ed Malensek, Director of Community Services Division; and Curt Nichols, LFA.

AGING SERVICES

Curt Nichols, LFA, gave a brief overview of the program. The program is responsible for administering funding to local agencies that operate services for senior citizens. The LFA recommended removing all Title XX monies from this budget as they anticipate an increase in funding from the Older American's Act. This would free Title XX money for Developmentally Disabled. The Executive Budget provides more general fund money for a possible federal match.

Ron Weiss, OBPP, spoke on the budget. They did put in more general fund money for the Older American fund match. They do not know how much money will be available from the Older American's Act. The Executive Budget Office would like to allow as much match to allow for as much federal moneys as possible.

Holly Luck, Chief of the Aging Bureau, explained the program to the subcommittee. The program is designed to implement the Older American's Act. They pass through monies to agencies for nutrition programs and home help services. They also are directly responsible for a State-wide Information and Referral Program which has a toll free number for senior citizens to call for aid; and the Foster Grandparent Program.

The Older American's Act was amended in October of 1978 and the bureau is now attempting to comply with the new act. The most recent figures on increased funds from this act are \$17,650 of Title III funds for social servies and \$225,000

of Title VII money for nutrition related services. The LFA has recommended cutting \$535,000 of Title XX monies which would leave the budget about a quarter of a million dollars short. Dick Hulme, Chief Budget Officer, explained that when the initial authority was announced there was much more money being considered. The recent figures are less. The local county commissioners supplement the program with a \$178,000 match.

The new act also includes a mandate that rural areas are to have more consideration in the program. The new rules have not been released yet, so they are not sure of the extent of this.

The bureau contracts with seven non-profit organizations to provide services. Fifteen percent of the pass through money is allocated for administration at the local level. The emphasis is on transportation, nutrition, home care and home chore services. All people over the age of sixty are eligible; however they have just added a phrase that they are to concentrate on socially and economically disadvantaged.

This bureau is under the Community Services Division. They presently have 11 FTEs but have authorization for 12. They have five Foster Grandparent's specialists, a Nutrition specialist, a Fiscal Analyst, an Indian Representative, two Community Organizational Workers and Administrators for area agencies.

The money comes from the bureau to the Area Aging Center to the community.

Senator Story expressed concern that the Community Affairs Division and the Aging Services do about the same things, both utilizing 15% funding for administration. He felt that perhaps they should be combined.

Senator Regan questioned the bureau on priorities within the system. Ms. Luck explained that each area agency prepared a plan including their priorities. The state then takes all seven plans and puts together a state-wide plan. The state-wide plan also has the priorities included. They try not to use the funds for brick and mortar. A special grant was given two years ago which was specifically for building purposes.

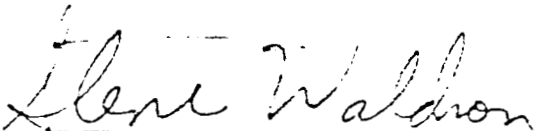
Mr. Colbo told the subcommittee that the state matching funds were very important to this program. Curt Nichols and Holly Luck will get together and try to come up with a compromised figure.

LW

Human Services  
February 16, 1979  
Page 3

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

---

Steve Waldron, Chairman  
Approved

bes