

1 with various State agencies, including the State Department
2 of Welfare and Mental Hospitals, and so forth, and from my
3 experience, when a decision was made to change a certain
4 rule or a function of the Department of Public Welfare, for
5 instance, one time the Department of Public Welfare
6 admitted all the mental patients to the State Hospital and
7 that duty or function was taken away, I don't know if it was
8 by executive order or by law, but, of course, we have a
9 State Department Welfare Manual which is revised now and
10 then. And, many times this manual was revised at the
11 direction of the general legislature because many laws were
12 not just administrative, certain regulations were not just
13 administrative or policy making and they had to be changed
14 by law.

15 I think the Committee has done the right thing
16 in drawing up this proposal because I feel that if the
17 Governor decided to take the mental hospital away from the
18 Department of Mental Health and put it into the Health
19 Department, I believe this would require some type of
20 statutory change and therefore, I support the Committee in
21 this particular proposal.