







## *Extract from Committee Stage Debate*

must be paid back. I suggest, therefore, that it should be called a loan.

**Deputy Mary Harney:**   It is clear what ancillary State support is. It has been promoted and I do not believe there is any confusion about it. I do not see the necessity of changing the language used in the legislation.



**Deputy Jan O'Sullivan:**   As we have a long day ahead of us, I will not press the amendment.



Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

**Chairman:**   Amendment No. 2 in the name of Deputy O'Sullivan has been ruled out of order because it involves a potential charge on the Exchequer.

Amendment No. 2 not moved.



Question proposed: "That section 3 stand part of the Bill."

**Deputy Jan O'Sullivan:**   I wish to speak to the section, as my amendment has been ruled out of order. In my amendment I sought to specify the services that would be available to elderly people in nursing homes in order to have clarified if services such as chiropody, physiotherapy and other care services would form part of the package of services they would receive without having to pay extra for them. That was the purpose of my amendment. Such a provision may well involve a charge on the Exchequer and that is the reason my amendment was ruled out of order. I do not know if the Minister can comment on it. There is widespread concern that one may have to pay for physiotherapy, chiropody or other services, in addition to the cost of nursing home care.

**Deputy Mary Harney:**   We are working on the long overdue eligibility legislation in the Department. Recommendations are due to go before the Cabinet sub-committee on health shortly. There is considerable confusion about what people are entitled to receive and what they are eligible for. In the context of therapy services, whether it be physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, community based services or primary care, we need to bring greater clarity to the range of services available. That is where we should deal with the matter. If we were to be prescriptive in this legislation, we would effectively divert some of the community based services, which I accept are still inadequate and in respect of which we still have a long way to go, to the nursing home sector. It is not the intention in this legislation to do this.

Question put and agreed to.

### SECTION 4.

**Chairman:**   Amendment No. 3 in the name of Deputy Reilly has been ruled out of order because it involves a potential charge on the Exchequer.

Amendment 3 not moved.