

January 13, 1994 LB 513A, 513

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Robinson. The Chair recognizes Senator Robak.

SENATOR ROBAK: Senator...thank you, Madam President. Senator Robinson, if I might add to your question and your concern somewhat, mental illness is not static. It is cyclical, and on any given day one with mental illness could be working with you and me and you would not probably even know that they were a consumer, and medication and treatment allow many people to lead normal lives right now. And so I really believe that they should have a say in their own treatment program. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Robak. The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely to close.

SENATOR WESELY: Madam President, again, I appreciate the chance to work with Senator Robak on this study. I think we came up with some...they are not major reform of the system but they will help improve. And I think, again, her point was we spend a lot of money, can we use it better? Can we find a way to stretch it farther and be more effective in the use of services for the mentally ill? And this should help. It is not a big step, but I think it could find some very helpful ways to do a better job with what money we are spending. So I would ask your support for the advancement of the bill.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. The question before the body is the advancement of LB 513. All those in favor indicate so by saying aye, by voting aye, all those opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLEK: 29 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on the advancement of LB 513.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. LB 513 advances to E & R Initial. LB 513A.

CLERK: LB 513A, a bill introduced by Senators Wesely, Robak. (Read title.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Again, Madam President, this is the A bill for 513. The six different quality review teams that would be established would have approximately 2,000 each to do