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SENATOR CUDABACK: Yes, you may. Senator Jensen, would you respond?

SENATOR JENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Senator Jensen, I don't see anything in your bill that actually has a time line in it. Is that correct?

SENATOR JENSEN: That is correct and let me say we would not close one bed in a regional center until there is a bed to take that individual at a community-based service. I don't know how long that's going to be. I can envision maybe two years, but, no, we purposely left out any time line.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you. That's...I looked through the bill and I didn't see it. So I oppose Senator Tyson's amendment. I have full trust that not only Senator Jensen but this legislative body in the future will do the right thing by the patients that are involved in this, and I certainly believe we need to move forward. I see no reason to take this particular paragraph or section out at this time. If you read the last, there's to be new legislation introduced next session. We can look at that at that time, but I don't think taking this out contributes anything to the positiveness of this bill, and I think leaving it in serves a purpose. And so I would oppose the amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Kremer, followed by Senators Stuthman and Janssen. Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. I agree with the statements that Senator Bourne made that we just can't just solve our problems by cutting. We need to look at any way we can to be more efficient and maybe do a better job with less money. And I have received a few calls from out in our area that are concerned that the regional center be closed maybe at Hastings, but, Senator Jensen, I'd like to ask you a couple questions, I guess, just to...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Jensen, would you respond?