

got insurance or another means of paying for their health care while they are incarcerated they, you know, ought to use that means to pay for that care and not use public dollars. And the only exception in the amendment would be that for long-term psychiatric costs of a prisoner that has been determined mentally incompetent to stand trial will not be covered by this and those of you who used to be county officials, were involved with county officials, can understand the consequence and the cost of that kind of a responsibility. It will provide, however, though, psychiatric care on a short-term basis for those that need it, you know, while they re in the county jail, but if they are determined incompetent to stand trial, simply put, make sure you understand, and in the process of that have to be treated, that kind of long-term and very expensive mental health care will not be provided under 187. However, just so you know that that issue is being addressed, LB 44 (sic) does address that issue and and, if successful, will accomplish that particular goal and that is the sense of the amendment and, hopefully, ask for your support for the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Lynch a question.

PRESIDENT: Would you respond, Senator Lynch, please.

SENATOR LYNCH: Yeah.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Lynch, as I listened as carefully as I was able to and I'm not sure if I completely understood. Is your amendment changing what care, the state or whoever was going to provide that care, would be liable for in terms of a prisoner's treatment?

SENATOR LYNCH: No. What it would clearly spell out though is with the addition of statutes regarding the maintenance and upkeep of prisoners being included in the bill that, in fact, this bill does include health care for prisoners in jails.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But is it reducing the health care liability that would be on those who have custody of the inmates? Would it be reducing the responsibility that they currently have?

SENATOR LYNCH: No, they are responsible for them with the one