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understand it, there may be empty beds at Hastings at some time and I guess I...I think it's...to me, it's wasting state money, it's also wasting county money that we have to...our people have to drive additional distance and that. Maybe Senator Hannibal can shed some light on this if he...if he...do you want to say something, Senator Hannibal? You look like you're ready to say something.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hannibal.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Well, Senator Hartnett, thank you. I heard the question just from you just a few minutes ago and I did have...I looked into it just a little bit and the answer to your question is, why can't...the question is, why can't Sarpy County send their patients to Hastings as opposed to Norfolk? I think the answer is there is no reason that we know of, why they cannot. Now, it may be an internal thing with the...with the regional director at Hastings and I understand that may be a problem with that. The department director has said that there would be a logical alternative to do that. If there is vacancies at Hastings and there is no vacancy at Norfolk, it makes sense especially for Sarpy County to use that facility. There is no reason in law why it can't happen. The department director has indicated that it makes sense so I would assume if there is any impediments there, that those could be worked out a lot easier than saying, well, we're just going to open a new wing. It doesn't make (interruption).

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yeah, that's...I did not sign on this with Senator Peterson because I did get the letter. I did see the reference to...you know, they were interested in it but why can't we do this other, that point of view. And so I guess I see a waste in county money to drive...you know, not to...I think Norfolk is not that far away but simply because the interstate, you know, goes closer to Hastings than it does to Norfolk and so I simply raise the point. Maybe it's something we've got to get the internal people in the public institutions to...

SENATOR HANNIBAL: I would be very interested in seeing the response you get to your letter...

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yeah.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: ...because I assume it can be done.