

accept many of these patients." Dr. Oliveto, from Omaha, "The need"...read part of his..."The need for more beds at Norfolk Regional is urgent, in my psychiatric opinion. I have worked at Douglas County Hospital and turned desperately ill people away because of lack of beds. The chronic mentally ill and the newly poor, no insurance, mentally ill are not getting proper care. I also serve as a psychiatric consultant for Immanuel Hospital, covering Blair and Fremont. I have referred many patients from these clinics to Norfolk Regional Center and bed availability is the main problem."

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR PETERSON: From Dr. Herrick in Omaha, "I quite agree with you that there appears to be a lack of available beds in the state hospital system. At the Norfolk Regional Center, particularly, which must absorb the bulk of Douglas County admissions, there is always a need for an adequate number of beds. Even if this is spread between two hospitals, there will still be a very tight situation. In addition, I should like to state that the most urgent need in the mental health system today is for long-term care beds for chronically psychotic individuals who are literally functioning now as a revolving door in and out of hospitals. The support system provided by the mental health centers are inadequate for these persons." And, with that, ladies and gentlemen, I would hope you would adopt this amendment. It will...DPI, with their monstrous budget, if they can't survive this with what the needs are, by golly, they better take another notice and set up and figure it out. I ask for adoption of this amendment and I ask for a call of the house, please.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Call of the house has been requested. Shall the house go under call? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record.

CLERK: 23 ayes, 0 nays to go under call, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The house is under call. Members, please record your presence. Those members outside the Chamber, please return. The house is under call. Senators Bernard-Stevens, Ashford, McFarland, Chambers, the house is under call. Senator Haberman, the house is under call. Senators Bernard-Stevens, McFarland and Haberman, the house is under call. Senator Haberman, the house is under call. Members, please return to