

not all of them, the very expensive local MR programs at all. For example: 146 of those 537 need day services only; 208 need residential services only; 92 need both residential and day services; and 91 need social services only, in other words they're folks and that are generally at home and taking care and maintaining themselves. Simply put, it just seemed to some of us who have traditionally, along with so many of the rest of you, supported these local programs and generally programs that involve MR, mental health, and aging and the rest, that this would be a good year for us to try to do just a little bit better for the waiting list. As you know, when the waiver went into effect, thanks to Governor Orr, by the way, we're very grateful for that, that helped considerably, but the waiting list still continues to exist and the cost is very, very low for the number of people to be served. The services are out there and the money, hopefully, can be available for this. This won't eliminate the waiting list, but unless we try to do a better job and continue to maintain as low a number of people on the waiting list as possible, the more serious, obviously, the problem becomes. So I would just ask for your help and support and amend not...amend the LB 813 to include another half a million dollars for folks identified who are on the waiting list. I'll try to answer any questions you may have.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Wesely, would you care to discuss the amendment? Thank you. Senator Scofield, would you care to discuss it? Senator Hall, any discussion on this amendment? Thank you. Senator Schellpeper? Senator Hannibal, would you care to discuss the amendment? Senator Warner on deck.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Oh, sure, Mr. President. This, Mr. Speaker and members, I rise to oppose the amendment and the reason why I rise to oppose the amendment has absolutely nothing to do with my thoughts or my beliefs about mental retardation, especially in community-based services, but rather to suggest to you once again that the Appropriations Committee funded the entire budget request of the Department of Public Institutions and we have made a significant...significant effort with regards community-based mental retardation programs, and I believe...I believe the current budget...current budget is about \$21,800,000 worth of General Funds, \$6 million worth of federal funds, and waiver funds that don't show up on the budget that if we could fully maximize, fully implement, the waiver funds, which does require cooperation with the regions and the department and they're working towards that, I think we could do a little