

saying in less than a year, my God, we didn't realize what is needed because things are getting worse out there, and this drought could cause more mental problems, because you talk to your, as I have, to your bankers and they will tell you the stress that some of these farmers are on. If you would look at some of the letters that I have received, I wish Senator Wehrbein, is he...Senator Wehrbein is here. Cass County Sheriff, "I am writing to you in regards to the immediate need for additional space at the Norfolk Regional Center. I was not aware that the Norfolk Regional Center was not operating at full capacity. In the past several weeks, the Cass County Sheriff's Department has found it necessary to transport patients to the Norfolk Regional Center under the emergency police...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR PETERSON: ...committal statutes or on a near weekly basis. I strongly urge you to support the funding for the reopening of the ward." The Clerk of the District Court, Rudy Tesar, addressed to Senator Warner, "I am writing to you in official capacity as Clerk of the District Court, and a member of the Fourth Judicial District Board of Mental Health to ask your support in obtaining funds for additional ward space at the Norfolk Regional Center. I am sure you are aware that the Norfolk Regional Center serves as the catchment area for eastern Nebraska and more specifically Douglas County. As a board member I can see the increased need for the psychiatric services for those who require long-term treatment as the least restrictive treatment. I can also see the need for those patients who are referred to the Norfolk Regional Center through the intervention of legal authorities for care and treatment." If you look through, Holt County, up in Senator Lamb's district, a letter in support. This county attorney up there came in and testified in 1980 to save the Norfolk Regional Center. We need to operate this at full capacity. The need is there, ladies and gentlemen, for this...how much time do I have left?

PRESIDENT: Your time has expired.

SENATOR PETERSON: Okay, I ask for the adoption of this amendment, ladies and gentlemen. We need it. We need to look at the lives of people. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. The question is the adoption of the Peterson amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay.