

current terminology and reference to this that if you've ever had a drug or alcohol problem, essentially that is a problem for life and you've got to constantly be aware of that and deal with it. And so the idea is that we want active addictions dealt with, not those that may be in remission, have dealt with their problem, so that term is clarified by the committee amendments. We do change the name of the cash fund as a technical amendment. We do also clarify one of the concerns under this process set up under the bill is, if an individual wants to report themselves or another individual as having a problem with drug or alcohol to the Department of Health and wants to get this treatment either for themselves or somebody else, they will be referenced over to the program. There is the potential that if, as originally set up in the bill, if you call the wrong department to report somebody, let's say you called, if you call the Department of Public Institutions, obviously, that's where this program is in place for assistance and you'd go through the assistance program, but the fear was that if you called the Health Department, logically a lot of people would do that, and your goal wasn't so much to punish or discipline but to get help for these people, you might end up sending the wrong signal and being logged in into the discipline system, and that wouldn't be your intent. So this clarifies that if you call to the Health Department, you'd be told about and referenced to the assistance program if that is your choice. In addition, it clarifies that that inquiry then wouldn't be used by the Health Department as a discipline action. And I'll get into how this all works, but I'd like to have the committee amendments adopted to clarify these items and then I'll go through the bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Is there anyone who wishes to speak to the committee amendments? Seeing none, we will vote on the motion to adopt the committee amendments. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted on the committee amendments? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Wesely, would you like to open on the bill?

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President, members, again, this is an important piece of legislation. We've struggled with