

entitlement, but not until...but that the intent is there, but there's no mandate that we go to an entitlement, pending the study and pending further action by the Legislature. So we're trying to set a...chart a course, set a direction, but not binding this Legislature or any future Legislature to meeting that entitlement. And the entitlement we're discussing here, Senator Landis, is a broad-based entitlement to all individuals who'd fall under the definition of developmental disability, as encountered in the bill, entitled to appropriate levels of services to them. And so it is a very broad-based entitlement. There are other elements of entitlement remaining in the bill that I'd be happy to discuss, if you wish. But the broader entitlement, which is the expensive and more far-reaching, is not included in the bill. But we simply chart a course that we'd like to reach that goal, what's it take to get us there.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, let me say that I intend to support the committee amendments. I intend to support this amendment to the amendment, and I intend to support 830 on General File. I think, because of Senator Wesely's very clear description, that the language would be left to read, it is the intent of the Legislature that by July 1, 1993 all persons determined to be eligible for services shall receive services in accordance with the act. That is not an entitlement, it is a declaration of intent to move to entitlement. I am...I am satisfied at this level that I can vote for the amendment to the amendment, the committee amendment and the advancement of the bill. I reserve, on the other hand, the opportunity to consider whether that provision is sufficient for my interests.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: I will declare that my interest here generally is to see to it that Nebraska does not move to any more entitlements than absolutely necessary. We need to keep budgetary flexibility sufficient that, even for critical services, the state have the flexibility to match the services with revenues. The federal government has made, I think, significant errors of public policy by creating large scale entitlement programs, which do not admit to ready budget discipline. And I don't want Nebraska to follow suit and find itself in a fiscal straightjacket because of the creation of entitlements. This is sufficient, at this level, for me to support these three items, the amendment to the amendment, the amendment, and the bill. I will examine this on Select File to