

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Madam President and members, Senator Byars and I have been in negotiation with the various representatives of the mental retardation regions and private providers in trying to reach a final compromise on this bill. We feel that we have reached that. We still are continuing discussion, but from our understanding, this amendment will deal with the concerns that have been expressed dealing with the one remaining issue of concern on this legislation, that being case management and the case coordination. What we do is we set a date of December 1, 1991 for the Department of Public Institutions to develop and define a plan for case management, and then at that point, we provide that on March 1 of 1992, implementation of that plan may begin, and that gives us the chance to review the plan and prepare for the change, and I think meets the objection and concern that have been expressed in the past. We also make some changes in the local board membership that better defines who is on that, and the technical amendments to the bill that deal with a number of concerns. One of them is from the Department of Education, which was concerned about voc rehabilitation, and a potential jeopardizing of the federal funds, and this amendment takes care of that concern. And, generally, what we have done is clean up the remaining questions involved with the bill, and ask for adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Byars.

SENATOR BYARS: Yes, Madam Speaker. I certainly concur with Senator Wesely in relationship to the amendments to LB 830, and to LB 830, itself, in that Senator Wesely and his office have worked extremely hard in trying to bring the appropriate people together to make sure that we have covered all the details on this bill. I think everybody at this point can rest assured that they are going to be given the opportunity, as we move forward in relationship particularly to the area of case management, the advocates, the clients, the providers, will all be drawn together with the Department of Public Institutions to try to interpret what we want as far as the case management system in the State of Nebraska. So I feel comfortable at this point. I feel if we can't agree on the issue, and I am quite certain that we are going to be able to pull people together and agree to it, that we will be able to do so in the future. So I would urge your support of the amendments, and of 830.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Byars. Does anyone else