

January 9, 1992 LB 678

with the question of training for the Mental Health Commitment Board which is part of LB 678, and there we want to have consumers and families work with the Department of Public Institutions in developing the training for Mental Health Commitment Boards. So that's the two elements of this amendment to the committee amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Pirsch, did you wish to address the amendment to the committee amendments?

SENATOR PIRSCH: I have a question for Senator Wesely.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Wesely, would you respond to a question, please.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Senator Wesely, when you're saying that we allow someone to be adjudged or not be held accountable by reason of insanity, what other commitments do you have in mind that would take the place of a regional center?

SENATOR WESELY: The commitment would go to the regional center, the question is at a certain point there is a decision that can be made of either they stay in the regional center or they're let go, you know, and...

SENATOR PIRSCH: Go where?

SENATOR WESELY: Out...out to the public. And we're concerned that...

SENATOR PIRSCH: And who makes that decision?

SENATOR WESELY: The judge now. Remember, I think you carried the bill.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Well, yes, it's under the judge's jurisdiction because of legislation that we passed in the early eighties. How is this changing that?

SENATOR WESELY: What it says is that you have an option now that hasn't existed before to allow you to say, all right, you can be released from the regional center but it's in the outpatient status under our jurisdiction with continuing monitoring. We think this is a safeguard that would...