

January 9, 1992      LB 678A, 678

clearly some modification to a few elements of the bill will improve, particularly the fiscal accountability involved, and I certainly will sit down with the department to see what the situation is. But I don't see why we can't get this accomplished without funding. With that, again, it's very important modification and improvement to the Mental Health Commitment Act. We've had a number of problems with that. If you recall the difficulties, I think it was down in Sarpy County, Senator Hartnett, we had an individual released a couple years ago that ended up being shot at a barber salon or something like that, that clearly ought not to have been...well, they shouldn't have been released. And we started taking a look at the Mental Health Commitment Act following that where this person needed attention, wasn't able to get it and clearly the system broke down. That's one of the reasons the standard issue that Senator Robak had questions about was included in the bill, but because we couldn't agree about how to accomplish that, that was part has been taken out with the committee amendments. But, overall, the mental health commitment changes this bill brings to us will vastly improve the system that we have in not in any expensive way and, hopefully, without any fiscal impact at all. And so I would ask for your indulgence in advancing the bill and I would be happy to work with the various senators that have raised questions to address concerns on Select File. We'll have amendments ready at that point. With that, I would ask for a vote for advancement of the bill.

SPEAKER BAACK: You've heard Senator Wesely's closing on the advancement of LB 678. We will now proceed to vote on the advancement. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Voting on the advancement of LB 678. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 678.

SPEAKER BAACK: LB 678 advances. We will now go to LB 678A.

CLERK: Senator, I have the A bill. Senator, LB 678A, no amendments.

SENATOR WESELY: I guess, Mr. Speaker, I'm just wondering if we need the A bill. I don't know that for sure yet but that's my intent. I don't know, shall we just pass over it for now? Would it be possible to just...