

with these people. You know, before, once they've served their sentence, they go in, they are a convicted sex offender, they have their treatment at the very beginning of their term and then they're put in the Penitentiary. What a terrible place to go because you unlearn all of the good things you learned at the beginning of your sentence. This bill allows for treatment at the end. It allows for determinations to be done but, in fact, when you're done then a mental health board gets filed and if you're not mentally ill or dangerous to yourself or to others, you walk scott-free. You walk free. And what this bill does is allow for the court to have some control afterwards. You could still file the mental health board, true, but this bill, the way it's written, will allow you the flexibility to go in and, as Senator Beutler has said, the court may release you but make it a condition of a probation or a parole that you have aftercare and that we can continue to monitor these people. You just don't kick them loose. I think this bill provides more protection and is a better system of doing it. It also does away with the long waiting lines. It also frees up more beds for the violent people at the Regional Center. Now, with that, I would oppose the Beutler amendment. Senator Beutler, I'm sure that you have more to talk about. I will just give you the rest of my time. I don't want you to feel like we're pressing you or anything. You can have the rest of my time.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I tried to have this little dialogue with Senator Kristensen so that we, including myself, get more familiar again with what the bill actually does so that the conversation becomes more meaningful, hopefully. But it's a very difficult area, I would be the first to admit, and I think it's most difficult because don't think, scientifically, we know very much about how to cure the psychosis or the problems of these kinds of people. And, therefore, for myself, I take a very cautious approach to releasing these people back out into society. Now let me tell you what the amendment does and I will try to tell you succinctly and I will try to tell you why I am proposing the amendment. In order for a person to be released into an aftertreatment program, which effectively means, can mean, probably in most cases does mean being released back out into society under some measure of control, in order for that to happen with somebody who has committed rape, for example, two