

SENATOR WITHEM: ..bone marrow transplant is a very strong program at UNMC and passing a bill like this will make us more supportive of them. Thank you for your patience. I know this not a terribly complicated or controversial bill, hopefully, but I did want to get all of that information into the record and make you aware of what this bill is, so I would respond to any questions that anybody may have. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Wehrbein, followed by Senators Beyer, Chambers, Wesely, Robak and Schimek. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Madam President and members, I just...Senator Withem answered my question, but I just wanted to reiterate, do you think maybe a day or two is what the...maybe two days probably be more accurate of the time off from an employer?

SENATOR WITHEM: My indication from people that have worked with this indicate that it's an overnight hospital stay, so it's probably a couple of days. Some people have a little more negative reaction to it. In some cases it may be...might be even further than that.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I notice you say a maximum of 40, or one week in the bill, 40 hours. I guess it also could be a valid sick day or sick leave I suppose.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yeah, and what we're doing is we're not mandating anything on the employer. We're just encouraging them so it would fit with whatever personnel policies...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Whatever (inaudible).

SENATOR WITHEM: ..the company would have.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Beyer.

SENATOR BEYER: Well, Madam President and colleagues, I wholeheartedly support the bill. Maybe Sarpy County's been hit a little harder than some other areas, but we also had a case at about...that happened. A young lady died this spring. She was a little bit older than this girl, but it was the same problem