

figure out is where will these services be available and to who?

SENATOR CROSBY: They could be available at DPI at a regional center. They could be available there. They could be available in a community based program, a variety of places.

SENATOR HILLMAN: So if I'm in Scottsbluff, Nebraska and the Panhandle Mental Health Clinic, which is a community based program, state funded program, wanted to access this specialist, they would be able to do that...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR HILLMAN: ...without any additional charges? I'm not sure how those...

SENATOR CROSBY: I'm not saying that there wouldn't be some additional charges, Senator Hillman, but I would hope, yes, that statewide that they wouldn't have maybe to come to Lincoln or halfway across the state to access services, at least to access the beginning, so a family could take a child to someone to get started on the services or what they feel that that child needs.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Are the services limited to inpatient, outpatient, or are they available for both?

SENATOR CROSBY: They're available for both.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Either inpatient or outpatient?

SENATOR CROSBY: Right.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time. Thank you, Senator. Senator Pedersen, your light is next.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Madam President and members of the Legislature, in working with the hearing impaired and knowing a little bit about the hearing impaired, I want to tell you that we are really talking about a unique, a very unique population in our people. Helen Keller was once asked, if you had a choice of being blind or deaf, which would be your choice? And she said she would rather be blind, because deaf do not know what's going on. There are other populations of people, other races, but the communication with the deaf is really a unique situation. Many years ago when I first became a drug and