

to comment on that. Apparently, you have some answers.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Yes. When I read that paragraph, I thought what...because DPI determines the length of the stay. They, the patient will stay at the Regional Center until such time as they are found competent to stand trial, or incompetent, as the case may be. So there would be no way that the county would have anything to say about that.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, I accept that on the surface, and I don't know whether that is 100 percent the case. I can't...I am trying to interpret, and I have talked to our Fiscal, and that's the...she said this is the information that has come from DPI, that it potentially could increase, and I concur. I don't see why it should have an effect if assuming what you said is true. I am concerned that potentially when this happens in many other areas, when someone else is picking up the bill, the costs go up, and control is lost. I won't say we, in this case.

SENATOR HUDKINS: And I will just reiterate what I've said. If I send...if I'm a county and I send you to the Regional Center and somebody else makes the determination as to how long you are going to stay, I'm out of the picture.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay, well, I don't understand, and I want to reserve judgment. I say I may pass this through today if there is going to be enough votes here to even do it, but I am concerned about the...who has final say here.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Who has final say on what?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: On the...by based on what DPI has said, why are they anticipating increased costs. You see, I mean they've indicated this could go up from zero to three thousand additional patient days per year, and if this increase occurs, there may be some instances where the department would be restricted, which is another issue, in its ability to accept emergency protective custody admissions. So I am concerned, one is that they will shut the door; maybe they are doing that now to some extent, but I also am concerned why is it just because we've shifted authority that the admissions, the stays may go up if what you are saying is true, and that's the part that I...that's one part I want to verify. The other one is, and I have the explanation, but I will do it for the edification of