

January 26, 1996 LB 1141

just opening up, we did feel that they could start in four areas. And the map that we've handed out to you shows all of the areas, but shows the areas that were being done. Since that time contracts have been signed, those programs are on the way, and things are moving very, very nicely. What this bill does is does the next step that we wanted to do in 988, and that's bring the rest of the areas on line so they can begin the development of the community-based programs. And very shortly, because I know we're short on time, there are two things it would do. If you look on the larger handout we have, about midway through, these programs would expand statewide the evaluation program, so the students, when they get...come into OJS, will be evaluated at the local level. The residential evaluation program will be in there so they can look at the families to see if any counseling is available, the tracker program, which is the direct contact daily with the student, if they need mental health services that they get the proper treatment and so on, proctor programs, those are the things that we did in 988. If this bill will advance and pass this session, what it will do is put us then statewide on the community-based programs so that next year we'll be able to come back, in the biennial budget, and say here is the next phase of the 988 juvenile program that we passed a couple years ago. The timing is right. On the downside, if you want to look at it, it's always been the downside of these things, there will be an A bill that will be coming later that will be about \$3.3 million. And, quite honestly, if we need to deal with the youth we're going to have to put the dollars. The Legislature said they were willing to do that in passing the policy, this is the bill that will do that. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Is there any discussion on the advancement of LB 1141? Seeing none, Senator Bernard-Stevens to close. Closing is waived. The question before the body is the advancement of LB 1141. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Please record.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on the advancement of 1141.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: LB 1141 advances. Mr. Clerk, items for the record.