

April 1, 1996

LB 1059

Wesely, would you yield to a couple of questions, please?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes.

SENATOR HILLMAN: You know I have some concerns about 1059 and I am trying to visualize some of the ways that things are fitting or are going to fit together. You currently have, in some areas, the Department of Social Services that is purchasing mental health services from regional boards or regional entities, isn't that correct?

SENATOR WESELY: Yeah.

SENATOR HILLMAN: They are going through a newly formed regional board to do that.

SENATOR WESELY: There is...well actually for mental health services...yeah, you are right. It does get complicated, which is one of the reasons we're trying to change this system, but you have DSS through Medicaid doing...yeah, you are right, they are...

SENATOR HILLMAN: Right, options is working with an entity in regions for...

SENATOR WESELY: That is right.

SENATOR HILLMAN: ...mental health services.

SENATOR WESELY: And then you also have the DPI regions out there that are purchasing services too, so you have a parallel system unfortunately.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Yes, and is there not also legislation, and I can't tell you the bill, but I think it was your bill that is establishing regional mental health boards?

SENATOR WESELY: Regional mental health...

SENATOR HILLMAN: Through the Department of Health?

SENATOR WESELY: There is regional public health boards, yeah, that we were working on, that is right.