

the regional centers that we established. We didn't have them in place at the time. So the idea was that when they got in place, and we finally got the last one in place a year ago, that we would no longer need that exemption. And so the time has come. In fact, we also included in there a reporting mechanism. We don't know that anybody's actually ever used that exemption, so we just...it's more or less an obsolete statute being repealed.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: But you're comfortable that, that the...when they're doing the, what, EPCs,...

SENATOR WESELY: Yeah.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...when they're doing that there are places, I'm thinking more out in the central and western part of the state, that there are places now available that...

SENATOR WESELY: Right.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay. Go ahead.

SENATOR WESELY: Well, in the six regions they all have a center or they are contracting for one. I think your region is contracting for one.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Correct.

SENATOR WESELY: So they're all...and it's all state funded and we've worked with them on it, so.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: What about the real small town, you know, in Cherry County or some place where something happens at eleven o'clock at night or two o'clock in the morning, you know, and they need to, they need to hold somebody for a period of time before they can get them to one of the centers. Would that not be allowed then at this time?

SENATOR WESELY: Right. But as I said, we've been trying to track this. We don't know that that's ever been a problem for anybody. So...and it's been since '87, I believe, when we passed it. So we don't consider this as anything more than a cleanup.