

an override. I am one of those, if you want to say I am reneging, I am, but this is the reason that I am, and what will happen as a result of the veto is that there will be the southeast region and the north central regions which will not be funded. Those are the least populated. They will be able to expand in the other sections of the state. I think the services will be looked at how they can be carried out in a better manner. We will do a better job, and we will be able to serve more of the state than we did before. We won't be able to do it as quickly as I would like to have seen it done. It won't be over the entire state, but it will be over the most heavily populated parts of the state, and also where there is the greatest need. Hopefully, next year when we come back, in the next budget, then we will be able to provide the services throughout the state, and...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR HILLMAN: ...as we go on down the line, I think we will be able to expand those services because we will see that they do work; community-based in handling our youth...handling our youth that are in trouble. Keeping them closer to the services at home, parents and family, in the long run will reduce, I think, the impact of the whole Department of Corrections, and look forward to being able to expand these programs in the future.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hillman. Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Madam President. I rise in support of the Bernard-Stevens amendment. I do think that, in fact, commitments were made. I think it's important that those commitments be continued. This is a part of the whole criminal discussion that we've had on a couple of occasions this year. Everyone has indicated that the rising prison population is as a result of some societal changes that are affected clear down to the ages of 10, 11 and 12, probably going lower, and it seems like to me that this is...this is money that is well spent in a preventive fashion to try to hold down the potential for continued extreme costs on the other...on the other end. As I look through some of the...some of the decisions that have been made, I just continue to think in my mind, you know, how many things are we going to back out of? That troubles me. I want to say, again, that the General Fund status that was handed out