

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

April 14, 1999 LB 610, 652

that section of the plan offered by Health and Human Services, but it's after...it's after the fact rather than immediate treatment. And on that basis, I have to say that I object to the striking of this language. Would you, Senator Thompson, would you be amenable to modification of this?

SENATOR THOMPSON: This...in...I would need to consult with...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...the department. Excuse me. My lights on. I'll answer.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Wehrbein. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. President, I punched in on the other amendment and I understand we have a substitute amendment now. Is that correct?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: That's correct.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I'm going to pass. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: In responding to the question, one of the concerns about the administration over the original bill, and it wasn't just the current administration but the last administration, was the state, if the children are placed with the state and we pay the bill, they'll work collaboratively to develop placements. But currently there are...one of the issues, and it's a multifaceted issue, is that some of the placements that are being made may not have been those that the department would have selected. They may be in other states. They may be...it may be the department would not have the money to pay for some of the more expensive placements. The issue for the counties is currently some of those placements can be made directly and there's no way to deal with the costs other than to pay the bill. This way, they would be made with the department. And one of the things we'll talk about when we get to LB 610 is that currently most of the kids that are being paid for when the placements are made directly by the counties are Medicaid