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length of stay for inpatient care has also increased from 5.5 days in '66-97 to 9.5 days in the first quarter of '99-2000. And we do have a series crisis in the Omaha area. Patients needed extended care at the state regional center must wait for available beds, which have been as long as four weeks when there's a heavy bed patient load. We have police officers who will pick up an individual off the street. They really don't know where to go because they know that there are not beds available. And the total patients going through the psychiatric crisis center are requiring inpatient care increased from 470 in '79-89 year to 716 in the '99-2000 years. There have not been any increase in payments to providers in Region VI in ten years, however, the providers' cross (sic) have increased significantly in this time. Current reimbursement to providers is 30 percent below the Medicaid rate, which is also a very low rate, and last year Richard Young, Alegent, Douglas County Hospital provided \$4.215 million in uncompensated care. For those reasons, I would just urge you to help out Region VI. It's a \$750,000 one-time increase and I would certainly ask your support and I want to thank you all for the support you gave us on the last amendment. But with that, Mr. Speaker, I would just again ask that support for this very important issue.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: You've heard the opening. Debate on the motion to override? Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. Speakers, members of the body, I don't know whether I'm giving up my grinch title or not, but I did vote for the last override and I'm inclined to vote for this one because it does seem to be a one-time expenditure. I am a little bit concerned that somehow you put money into these programs and it never does quite fall back to the level where it should have. I am cognizant in the Governor's veto message, he says that we're building extra beds; we should be able to alleviate the problem that has caused the need for this additional \$750,000 expenditure. I'm also advised that \$750,000 isn't all that was asked for, so maybe we're...maybe we're being as careful as we can be under the circumstances. But I will tell you that I have voted for the last override and I'll vote for this override as well, being fully aware that it does have an effect on the plan (inaudible) out years and that it will mean that somebody...that somebody doesn't get their A bill. We