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and Human Services issued a white paper on the system, January of 2001. The Legislature did pass LB 692 and LB 543, which provided significant additional funding for behavior health system. In 1999, the Health and Human Services Committee has personally visited with all three of the regional centers, also visited with many of the behavior health providers statewide. And my staff has toured, taken pictures of the grounds and buildings of the regional centers, and met with regional center administrative staff. And also, in 2002, the Health Committee staff attended meetings with each of the six regional governing boards, met with the regional administrative staff. And the committee has also had regular contact and input with the state Mental Health Planning Evaluation Council, the Nebraska Advocacy Services, the Nebraska Association of Behavioral Health Organizations, the Children and Family Coalition of Nebraska, and many individual consumer advocates and groups and private behavior health providers. In 2002, the Governor convened two conferences on children's mental health. Also in 2002, in connection with an evaluation and planning study by the Health and Human Services Committee, mandated in LB 692, the committee sent out requests for legislative proposals to an extensive list of behavior health stakeholders. Extensive work has also been done on the input provided by the committee from the behavior health task force and the Nebraska Medical Association, and by a distinguished group of Nebraska psychologists, and psychiatrists. I want to express my personal appreciation for their help and assistance. In addition, the University of Nebraska's Public Policy Center has recently received a multimillion-dollar behavior health grant, and other grant funds are currently being utilized to pursue other system reforms, including establishment of, quote, village integrated services agencies, VISA, model in Nebraska. Significant work has been done, and much progress has been made. Several issues have been repeatedly raised before the Health and Human Services Committee with respect to the behavior health system. These issues are highlighted in LB 724. The separate and distinct funding and administrative mechanisms of the regional centers and the county regional governance system present significant barriers to statewide coordination of behavior health system. The number of inpatients at the regional centers is significantly less than originally design capacity of such centers. And many regional