

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

April 10, 2003 LB 46

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Synowiecki, to open.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. This amendment...I don't want to speak for Senator Brashear, but I think we developed this amendment in concert with his staff and with Senator Brashear, and I hope to have his support of this amendment. It's kind of a...I guess can characterize it as a compromise amendment from the original amendment attempting to secure funding for substance abuse mental health treatment through the regions as part of community corrections. AM1280 simply requires that the administrators of both probation and parole consult with the Community Corrections Council on the use of these funds. It, secondly, moves the voting membership of the Community Corrections Council, particularly regarding the mental health and substance abuse professionals, and the provider, community-based providers, it moves them to voting members of the Community Corrections Council. Finally, it adds a duty to the Community Corrections Council. And I'll just quote here, "To ensure adequate funding for substance abuse treatment programs for probationers, consult with the probation administrator as provided in section 9 of this act and develop or assist with the development of programs as provided in subdivision (14) of section 29-2252". And it goes on to do that also with the parole administrator. I'd request your support of this amendment. Again, it's something that has been developed with Senator Brashear. I'll let Senator Brashear speak on his own. Hopefully we can come to an agreement on this kind of compromised amendment from the original amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Synowiecki. Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I won't shy away from the word "compromise" at all. I mean, we don't make deals here, but we do compromise. And Senator Synowiecki is a tough negotiator. This is a compromise, and a very good one. And I rise in enthusiastic support of this amendment. I think it brings his concerns into focus. It will get the attention directed in the manner which both he and I want it to be directed. And I urge its adoption. Thank you.