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FLOOR DEBATE

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shopping at Wal-Mart with this. This is a concept with some figures attached. But you don't have a plan here. Now, supposedly there's supposed to be a plan sometime soon. This amendment takes care of any doubts that people may have about something like this. And it's because of this that I ask that you adopt this floor amendment. Thank you very much.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Tyson. You've heard the opening on AM3211, which is an amendment to the second division of the committee amendment to LB 1083. Open for discussion on that amendment. I'll read the first ten of a long list: Senators Redfield, Johnson, Erdman, Schimek, Landis, Connealy, Thompson, Cunningham, Byars, and Jensen, and 11 others. Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I rise in support of this division of the committee amendment. I support the bill. And the words that run through my mind as I look at this bill are words which we have seen before: least restrictive environment. Over a decade ago, we dealt with that issue when we talked about special education children. Least restrictive environment. Why? Because it was determined to be best for the children, to provide the services that they need, closest to home, at the most developmentally appropriate area. And that's exactly what I believe LB 1083 is trying to. It is trying to provide the least restrictive environment for the citizens of Nebraska who need these services. When I first read LB 1083, I was enmeshed in the details. But it was the letters that I received, the calls that I received, the e-mails that I received from consumers, from people who need these services, who said, please, please, we need these services, we need them close to home so that we can remain in our homes, we can remain in our jobs and remain functioning, productive members of society. We just need a little help. We sometimes don't need residential services; sometimes we do. Sometimes it's short-term; sometimes it's long-term. But one size does not fit all. And Nebraska is behind the curve in providing the broad breadth of services that our people need. Senator Bourne talked about, this is right for Nebraska. Well Nebraska is nothing but a geographical area made up of people. It's about what's right for the people. We're