

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

March 23, 2004 LB 1083

time and be our check. And as you read this and look at it, would you think that you'd have a public hearing on the information that you got back?

SENATOR ENGEL: Well, as far as I'm concerned, we want to be part of the solution, too, and I certainly would consult the rest of the board, our Executive Board, and if it's warranted for a public hearing, we'd certainly have one.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Senator Engel. And that would be my take on it, too, that that would be the way that the public would have access to this, and as representatives of the public, that would be a good thing to do, that the Executive Committee...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CONNEALY: ...have one more hearing. Thank you, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Connealy. Senator Janssen. Is Senator Janssen available? I do not see...right, there he is. I'm sorry, Ray. I'm sorry about saying Ray, Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. That's fine. I have, you know...I want...Senator Jensen, I want to vote for this proposal in the worst way. Now I'm just going to tell you what my concerns are. My concerns are, what about my local hospital? You know, are...after this is down the road five years, are they going to see a flood of people who are picked up and no place to go with them? I'm talking about someone who is mentally, really mentally disturbed and cannot help themselves and no one can help them until they are taken somewhere and treated. That's a concern of mine. When we had a meeting the other day with the Governor, someone from HHS said, well, you know, we have...I can't remember the name of the place in Omaha. There was a concern that the police were driving around with these poor folks, trying to find a place for them. Well, we have a place. Well, they didn't know that. These are the things that bother me in the extreme. I don't want to see that