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FLOOR DEBATE

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has involved the hospital, the sheriff's department, the police department, the county attorney, everyone, into deciding how we going to be a part of this? I think in Senator Janssen's concerns about not having a place for these people and where to go with them, I think they have to be at the table in deciding, you know, what are we going to do with these people when we get to the community-based setting. So I think it's going to work, and the only way that it really is going to work if that we make it work. I also look at a scenario or a situation that we would have probably in the state. The state would have...has a lot of vehicles. If the state decides to only repair the vehicles in six regions, in mechanic shops in six regions, but they decide maybe they should allow people in the community to repair some of these vehicles, so they would close the regional repair shops for these. I think it would be a benefit to the communities, and we can use this as a situation that could reflect the same situation. I think the communities are going to benefit from it. But the only way the communities are going to benefit from it is if they communicate and cooperate. So with that, I'm a little bit concerned about the number, the percentage that is in this amendment. I think it will work, but I would like to see, you know, that as soon as these are developed in the community-based setting, that there are no patients in those regional centers, and we can't afford to keep it staffed if there's no patients. So with that, I'll return the balance of my time to the Chair. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuthman. Senator Broom. I'm sorry your light went off. Senator Burling, followed by Senators Johnson, Maxwell and Senator Combs, on AM3329 to the second division of the divided committee amendments to LB 1083.

SENATOR BURLING: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members of the body. I wanted to also thank Senator Jensen for his willingness to work with us on this issue. It is very important, and Senator Johnson and all of the committee have been willing to discuss this, and I wanted to thank all those who supported both sides because it's an important issue. Those of us who have been in opposition agreed with the goals. We agree that behavioral healthcare must change and keep up with the times. Nothing is the same as it was a hundred years ago when these