

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 23, 2004 LB 1083

Funding for the commission would come from the revenue allocated to the committee from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund, and the commission would terminate in June 30, 2008. I would move adoption of FA1577.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. You've heard the opening on FA1577, which is an amendment to LB 1083. Open for discussion on that amendment. Senator Combs.

SENATOR COMBS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, I do just want to speak in full support of this amendment and say that it's a very good collaborative effort to make sure that the program does progress to the benefit of everyone concerned. I think it's very important that we have mental health professionals involved because, again, it isn't just, like we discussed this morning, just a sterile legislative decision. It is based on sound medicine also. And then in reference to Senator Maxwell's earlier question, I did find out the existing Nebraska statute that we were concerned about that references the ability of the Exec Board is Chapter 50, article 4. That's all I have to say. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Combs. Further discussion on the fifth component of the divided committee amendments, FA1577? Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I have a couple of questions I'd like to address to Senator Jensen, please.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Jensen, would you yield to a question?

SENATOR JENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR STUHR: I believe on line 6 and 7 it does talk about that this commission may employ staff and enter into contracts. What do you foresee as number of staff and these contracts? Because I know going back to the regional governing boards, I think those locally have to do with some contracts. But I was more interested in what you were thinking about as far as staff