

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 6, 2004      LB 1083

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk, next amendment.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have is offered by Senator Jensen. This is AM3516. But, Senator, I have a note you wish to withdraw this one?

SENATOR JENSEN: That is correct.

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is withdrawn. Next amendment, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: In that case, Senator Jensen would offer AM3560. (Legislative Journal page 1477.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Jensen, you're recognized to open on AM3560 to LB 1083.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. AM36...or, excuse me, AM3560 is a comprehensive cleanup amendment that makes various technical changes to the bill. This is as a result of its passage on General File. The amendment adds new sections to harmonize changes made in the underlying bill, such as changing the title of superintendent of a regional center to chief executive officer, changing mental health region to behavioral health region, changing mental ill dangerous, to mentally ill and dangerous. The amendment clarifies the role of regional behavioral health authorities to remove any confusion that might exist about the role and administration of the Medicaid program within the region. The state agency charged with administration of the Medicaid program in Nebraska is the Department of Health and Human Services Finance and Support. There was concern that current language could have been interpreted as giving administration of Medicaid behavior healthcare to the regions, which was not intended. The amendment also clarifies the responsibilities of counties to contribute matching funds for the operation of the regional behavioral health authority, and for the provision of services within the region. The requirement is still transferred directly from current law, but is simply clarified in the amendment at the request of the regions. The amendment clarifies the term "licensed capacity" in the bill as a licensed psychiatric hospital bed capacity on March 15, 2004. This