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FLOOR DEBATE

April 14, 2004 LB 1083

are lodged in jail because they simply are not...there are simply not enough secure acute care beds. Another aspect of this hypothetical situation we had in Lincoln, as related to you by Senator Schimek, is the fact that this particular person was in a community home and was to have 24-hour visual supervision. He was to be in somebody's sight the entire time. One of the questions that raises in some people's minds, and in my mind, is it a practical human expectation to expect a staff, especially one that isn't highly trained and experienced, not to have any moments of lacking discipline, not to have any times when they aren't distracted for a few moments in time? Is that a reasonable expectation? Should a person like that be in a community home to begin with? This little boy was not out of the supervision of his parents. His father was outside, as he was watching the kid ride a bike, just had his training wheels off, and he turned a minute...a minute to do a little task in the front yard and he turned around and the kid wasn't there.

SENATOR VRTISKA: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And all of this occurred in very, very short time. If a person is thought by a placement doctor to be so dubious as to require 24-hour constant visual supervision, to me that calls into serious question the whole idea of placement, and I want to talk about that a little bit more, and it also creates in my mind some practical considerations relating to cost. One person in visual 24-hour supervision requires at least three full-time employees, plus a facility, plus care. How much money is that?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Time. Thank you, Senator Beutler. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members. I've had a little discussion off the microphone with Senator Jensen and Senator Thompson, and I intend to keep the discussion open a little while longer because there are some people who want to, I think, reassure the people in this body about LB 1083. And I would like to say that the purpose of this discussion today is to focus us...focus us on the problems out there that could be encountered. I want...I want Health and