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set up, some sort of a board with a director and staff and that sort of thing to, what, I guess coordinate the business between states? Is that what this one is trying to do?

SENATOR THOMPSON: Yes. The states currently spend a lot of time arguing about how they're going to handle things. We've been lucky in that it's worked fairly well for Nebraska, but should...we could be in the same boat if a neighboring state chose to do some of the things that have happened in other parts of the country.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Now, what...this operating authority, what...how far can they get...can they get us...I shouldn't use the word "in trouble," but for lack of better words, this operating authority, how far...what control would they have over what Nebraska had to do and contribute, and what if Nebraska decided there was something that they couldn't work with? I mean I...we all know what can happen with compacts.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Well, what would happen is...the first thing would be to try to resolve the dispute, but we could be...it can go both ways for us. We could be left holding the bag for treatment costs if they aren't worked out. Essentially, it's the state under the court whose jurisdiction they're coming from, that we transfer it to another state and they take over the supervision. But we would continue to pay the costs...

SENATOR LOUDEN: Now, is there...

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...that we were already planning to pay.

SENATOR LOUDEN: How much...is there that much that would be costs between states, or is this more something to track individuals that move from one state to the next and keep track of them? Is this more of a tracking authority, or is this authority that's going to decide on what method of help...

SENATOR THOMPSON: Treatment.

SENATOR LOUDEN: ...these people need? Yeah, treatment.