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FLOOR DEBATE

March 15, 2006 LB 1086

consultation with the Fiscal Office, have developed the amendment that's now before you, AM2429. Essentially, the amendment removes the fund provision from the bill. The Fiscal Office indicated it is not usual business to create a fund and afford General Funds to the fund. So this will be, in essence, the Legislature appropriating funds to Health and Human Services for regional behavioral health authorities so that they can respond to this activity with a coordinated array of community-based services. So the first thing it does is it terminates or ends or deletes the fund aspect of the bill. And secondly, it adds an additional criteria for funding of a regional behavior health authority to include that the authority has consulted with recognized neighborhood and business associations within close geographic proximity to concentrated areas of prostitution. This is a community response, and we wanted to enhance and increase the level of community involvement in our response to prostitution related activities. And this was suggested to me by several neighborhood groups within the metropolitan area, and I thought it was a good idea that we enhance the involvement of community groups, business associations, and so forth, relative to the response that's embodied within LB 1086. So thank you, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator. (Visitors and doctor of the day introduced.) Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend Senator Synowiecki's amendment with FA606. (Legislative Journal page 1046.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, to open on FA606.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I am totally in favor of the approach this bill is taking, and this is a friendly amendment which I've discussed with Senator Synowiecki. In line 12 I would strike the word "close." The phraseology says, "within close geographic proximity." Since the word "proximity" means near or next to, we don't need the word "close." And Senator Synowiecki agrees. So when we say "within geographic proximity," that means close to or next to. So that's all the amendment does. And if you