

Senator Wesely to open on the committee amendment.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. LB 752 is a very important bill introduced by Senator Robak and myself to deal with the question of what's commonly referred to as a rehab option of the Medicaid program. It's been of interest to some of us for a number of years, and the amendments I guess I won't get into the bill at this time and just refer to the fact that the amendments by the committee reflect a few of the concerns that were brought up at the hearing. If you look at the hearing, you'll see that everybody that testified was in support of the proposal, though some individuals that testified in support did express some concern with some of the language, and that's what we strike in the committee amendments. Specifically, we deal with sections dealing with an intent language about the need for psychiatrists not to be in administrative positions in the public mental health system, in a sense. It's merely intent language, but it was thought of as a negative reference to psychiatrists and didn't really particularly serve a purpose under the intent of the bill, so that's deleted. Also, reference to multidisciplinary teams is changed to interdisciplinary teams. It seems like a small change, but it did create a comfort level for again the psychiatrists in particular, that they would not be necessarily removed from a lead role in these teams. Then there's also another technical amendment dealing with regional centers scope of authority. So I would clarify the... categorize the committee amendments as more or less clarifying in nature and ask for support for the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Is there any discussion of the committee amendments? Seeing none, Senator Wesely, do you wish to close? Closing is waived. The question before the body is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 752. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? You're voting on the committee amendments to LB 752. Please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The committee amendments are adopted. The Chair recognizes Senator Robak to open on LB 752.

SENATOR ROBAK: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body.