

of discussion but we went forward with that language. And, you know what, that language eventually led to, along with other elements of the bill, to the decision by the Governor just a few weeks ago to come up with a plan that will achieve the goal. We will have, in fact, every developmentally disabled individual in this state provided with services to some degree. And I know that the predecessor to Senator Maurstad, Senator Byars, was very supportive of that intent and with him and everybody else that worked on that language we were able to accomplish what seemed like a goal that was impossible at the time. So I'm saying again, when you put in intent language and you chart a course, yes, it is an absolute; yes, it isn't completely specific on how you achieve the goal, but you can move mountains, you can move directions and you can eventually maybe achieve those goals you never thought possible because you've said them, you've stated them and you've worked toward them. So, again, I emphasize the need for this language to remain in the committee amendments and I ask your opposition to the Witek amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, just briefly, I did file an amendment that would strike the word "insurance" and insert care...instead "health care through insurance or other methods", as I have listened to the discussion that there seems to be some feeling, I think, that this is a mandate for insurance only and I assume that the word "insurance" here was used in a broader sense that there was assurance rather than insurance, assurance that there was adequate health care available for every individual. And I intend to vote no on the amendment to strike the section in its entirety, but I would be supportive of the concept that in the end of this four-year period that health care, whether it be by insurance or other appropriate method, would be a part of the public policy in the state. I think that would be a desirable route to go and get away from the concept that we are advocating one aspect only and that is tied to the concept of insurance. And I think the perception, at least, would be narrower than what I hear people discussing here on the floor.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Bohlke, you've spoken three times already. Is there any further discussion on the Witek amendment? Seeing none, Senator Witek to close.