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SENATOR CUDABACK: Use your mike, Senator Vrtiska. Thank you.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Senator Jensen, I appreciate what you're doing. I appreciate your remarks about looking at the future for health care. I think that we have fallen down. Many of you know I served on the Health Systems Agency and the Health Coordinating Commission, which were all abandoned after a period of time when a lot of work was done. And for some reason it was decided that for good or for bad, the institutions were done away with. And I do understand a little bit about how health and mental health and all kinds of health issues work. I noticed in Section 6 where you're changing the membership of the governing boards, including elected officials and other persons with a broad range of interests and expertise in the provision of behavioral health services in the region. I think that's a proper...certainly a proper way to go, because all elected officials are not as familiar with issues in health as others. The only question I have in that regard, are these individuals who are not elected going to be able to provide...be allowed to vote on the funding and those kinds of things when it comes to setting up budgets?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Jensen, would you respond?

SENATOR JENSEN: Yes, Senator Vrtiska. And that's a very good question. At this point in time, I don't know. Certainly we want their expertise. You want the elected officials there to make the final decision, or at least a majority of elected officials. Whether we should allow those individuals with that expertise to vote I think is still open for discussion. And that's something that we might take a look at. But I think that's extremely important. It's paramount that we always have elected officials with the majority who are controlling that board, who are making those final decisions.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, I appreciate that, Senator Jensen. I only bring this up simply because, as I said before, I totally and fully agree with the idea that you need to bring expertise in, because you can't expect board members or other people to be experts in some of these fields, and we need their expertise in order to do these kind of programs. I do have a concern though