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to have two strong Regional Centers than we would three weak ones in the first place. In the second place, I can understand your proposition that you have to transfer this to the veterans or you cannot put any federal money into it. They have to have the title.

SENATOR KENNEDY: No, it's a per diem that they collect because they are.....

SENATOR CLARK: That's right, they get \$4.50 a day or \$4.60 a day but they cannot get that if they don't have title.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Yes, that's true.

SENATOR CLARK: I'm not against closing it as a Regional Center but I'll be certainly opposed to not having utilization of the buildings somewhere in it. Now, I still think with a lower number of people we have up there, perhaps eventually we're going to have to transfer something to the Hastings and to Lincoln in order to have two Regional Centers instead of having empty buildings all the way around. And if we can convert one to a good viable institution such as the veterans, it would be fine with me. Or I'd be in favor of holding it open if that's what they need. If it's really needed.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Personally, I would...I guess...no question in my mind, I disagree with you that we ought to close the Regional Center there, Senator.

SENATOR CLARK: Well, I'm sure you would.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Because I think it's a most necessary thing to have those people within Northeast Nebraska. We cover a lot of territory and Norfolk is quite a trade territory and these people have a lot of friends and family up there. Now, this is true with the veterans and I don't want to see the veterans, you know, collapse because we have...we have planned and the veterans know we have planned to use this Administration Building. It's been in all of the plans.

SENATOR CLARK: I'm sure of this. That isn't really what I'm saying, I guess. You see I live in the city and we don't have any Regional Center anywhere within 300, 350 or 400 miles of us so we don't know really know about this local control type thing. Over there....the thing I'm saying is as a state senator, I think we should go for utilization of our facilities more than anything else and it scares the daylights out of me the amount of money we're spending now trying to build new facilities when we could use existing facilities. And I'm sure those buildings up there are usable for veterans.

PRESIDENT: Gentlemen, at the risk of being nosy here, the Chair is going to remind you that you're still debating the issue in which to refer LB1052 to a committee for a hearing. I know some other dialogue is necessary but may I please point your discussion back towards whether LB1052 should have a hearing or not.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Senator Clark, can I ask you a question  
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SENATOR CLARK: Well, I can answer it in just a second. I didn't realize what we're discussing. I just came in from the Governor's conference there. But certainly I wouldn't want this to go back to the committee. I don't think the