

CLERK: Mr. President, 82 offered by Senator Lynch. (Read title.) The bill was first read on January 10 of this year. It was referred to the Health and Welfare Committee for hearing. It was advanced to General File. There are Public Health and Welfare Committee amendments pending.

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. President, and members of the Legislature, LB 82 was brought to the Public Health and Welfare Committee by Senator Lynch. It deals with the question of how we reimburse Douglas County Hospital for mental health commitments made by Douglas County. There has been some confusion and differences in opinion as to how that reimbursement is to take place. This bill attempts to clarify that. The bill as introduced was considered to be much broader in terms of what was paid for than was the present practice and it was felt that that needed to be narrowed back down and so this also does a clarification in terms of who exactly would be reimbursed under this bill and clarifies it further. But the main focus of the committee amendments are to cut out completely any reimbursement for outpatient services. Those are not now covered and would not be under this bill if this committee amendment is adopted. The savings under the bill would be about \$130,000 because it is estimated that is what it would cost to now pick up outpatient services and reimburse them in Douglas County Hospital. So we do ask your support for the committee amendment.

PRESIDENT: Is there further discussion on the committee amendment? The motion is to adopt the committee amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on the committee amendments to LB 82. The Clerk will record the vote.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: The committee amendments to LB 82 are adopted. The Chair recognizes Senator Lynch to explain the bill.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, when Jerry Warner was first elected to the Legislature back in 1870, the Lincoln Regional Hospital for mental health was established, and right after that,