

SENATOR GOODRICH: So consequently the regional centers can be 50 to 100 miles away. You take that law enforcement officer out of commission for awhile, until he delivers that person to that place, then he comes back, and there is four hours of his day gone.

SENATOR WESELY: I understand that. Right now they would not have to do that. They would take this person and, if they don't have a local service, there is a list of places to place these people, least restrictive and the most restrictive. They try and get the least restrictive, but if they don't have that available then the most restrictive is the jail in their community and they are able to do that. At some point the Mental Health Commitment Board takes action as to whether or not these people are committed. At that point, if they say, well, this person needs services and they are not here, then they have to be transported to wherever those services are. At that point they would have to be transported. But that is already in the act, Senator Goodrich. This doesn't change it.

SENATOR GOODRICH: As long as they can use the local facilities, even if it has to be the jail, to detain them until they are not dangerous or until the board has acted.

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, right.

SENATOR GOODRICH: That's what I wanted to make sure about.

SENATOR WESELY: That's right. This doesn't change that, Senator Goodrich. No, that doesn't affect it.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: (Microphone not activated) ...to follow through immediately on this. But I certainly have a very big question of Senator Wesely. I am trying to address this later on alcohol, drug abuse programs and so on that I've seen in our particular locality, the need. Mental health centers and the drug and alcohol abuse centers, we simply do not have the facilities. Our jail is overcrowded. My local sheriff is working with me on an appropriations bill that you will see coming in for increased care and centers. I would have severe reservations right now. Maybe we are