

get frustrated sometimes because on other occasions we're going to hear people trying to get funds shifted around from the state paying to the county paying, or the county paying as opposed to the state and at that point, when money is involved, you are suddenly going to hear all this concern about people. They must get this treatment. They need the medication. They need the hospitalization. They need the doctors and then the smoke screen. Now we are actually dealing with people who have nobody here to speak for them. There are no drug abusers in the Legislature, other than people drinking alcohol. We know that is not what is being talked about in this bill, no drug abusers here to speak for them. So Senator Marsh asked how do I know. I'm just trying to put the best face on the Legislature that I can on this particular issue, since I put such an ugly face on the Legislature on so many other issues. But why is it necessary to label people in this fashion if the real concern is about people who have a drug problem? If DPI is concerned, really, about that category of person, they could have drafted a bill dealing with the problem of drug abuse instead of trying to create a whole new category of mentally ill, dangerous people by definition, that they can tend to, that they can deal with, that they can come in here and fluff their budget upon us. As Senator Higgins pointed out, if the money is going to come out of their budget to hire a lawyer, you know they are going to get the cheapest one they can get. Who even cares about these people anyway? We don't care about them. We're the ones putting them in this mentally ill, dangerous category right now. Then we're going to say that the department, which is as concerned about its money as any department, is more concerned than we are. We don't care. Why even talk about them having representation? To give the argument Senator Wesely gave is like saying, Ernie, if you go out into the wrong neighborhood in Omaha they will arrest you because black people don't belong out there. But in Omaha you have a right, even if you can't get out of jail because you can't post bond, they are going to bring you before a judge at some point and you'll have a fair chance at that time to try to tell them that you didn't do anything wrong. So it becomes all right to deprive certain people of their freedom of movement and other things because you say, over here they are going to have a chance to have a lawyer, and a judge, and a board of people sitting around listening to see if the deprivation of that freedom was justified. That is not the way we deal when we are talking about the rights of the