

available at the Regional Center for persons needing medical detox as a backup source. Since the medical facility is already in place at the Regional Center that can handle medical detox, it seems inefficient and costly to establish new medical detox sources for those that are obviously in need of those services." That was in the letter that I quoted you. Okay, D is, and I know there are some people on the floor that don't like relying upon the media. I have had to rely heavily upon the media as my resource since I was not able to get information from those that I asked for it from. Two articles from the Hastings Tribune, the one that states, "Directors consider detox unit," if you will look down there at the bottom, the place where I have x-ed, and a couple of statements and paragraphs that I have put brackets around, you will see the the two concerns that they still have which have not been addressed and which I think we should be very concerned about as people that are representing counties across the state because I firmly believe that unless we're really careful about what we're looking at here, we're going to be paying for that another way, more expensive costs at the county level. And finally on May 11 the latest little statement that I was able to find here, the Friendship House Board did meet on May the 9th and still have not yet made a decision as to whether or not they want to accept the contract. I have a few other points that I think are relevant to the situation that I think we should be addressing and be concerned about. We should be looking at the diminished levels of care. We're talking about less professional staff if we go to a social detox unit with people that are still going to be in need of professional staff. What about ongoing funding? Where is the money going to come from? Is it going to come from 280A? No, it isn't going to come from 280A. We all know that now. Will the state continue to fund another more costly program or will be counties be forced to pick up the costs? Nebraska would become the only state in the region that has no state funded medical detox units. The social setting, regardless of cost, will never be able to handle all of the cases that can and are presently handled by the medical detox unit.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: I guess that I would simply close by asking your support for this amendment to LB 722.