

that \$900,000, the salary adjustment alone would cost about \$600,000. So if the funds as proposed here are taken out and the language is retained for the employees salary adjustment, the only place the agency can get the funds is to abolish something. Now you have seen some things submitted, passed out, apparently from the Institutions involving a program at Hastings and Lincoln and a suggestion that just a restricted admittance to the other regional centers might be necessary, and whether or not that will be their final decision or not, you know, I am in no position to know but what we can state, I believe, that some other activity would have to go. About 84 percent or so of their operating funds are for personnel. You know it is high, intense personnel requirements, hands on care in many cases, and to make a significant reduction in their operating money without question will force them to abolish some current activities or restrict admittance and still be able to...or they would not have the funds to provide the mandated salary adjustments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Sieck, please.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President and members of the body, I also support this amendment and I want you to realize that you all received a letter from Ron Jensen, the DPI Director, from Senator Wesely, that if the DeCamp-Lynch amendment were passed, he would have to cut his Institutions' budget by \$600,000, and then he would have to do three things, first close the Comprehensive Care Service of the Lincoln Regional Center; two, close the Developing Unit for Children at the Hastings Regional Center; three, make additional reductions in the population of all three regional centers. I want you to have the following information. It is summarized in a handout I sent around. First, the average cost per person in the Comprehensive Care Service at the Lincoln Regional Center is about \$78,000. This program serves adults who are mentally retarded and have behavior problems. There are 19 persons in that unit to the total budget and the total possible savings of about \$1.5 million. Second, the average cost per person at the Development Unit for Children at the Hastings Regional Center is \$80,000. This unit serves children who are just mental retarded. There are about 15 children in that program so the total budget and possible cost savings is about \$1.2 million. Remember, Mr. Jensen said that they would have to close these two programs with the result of a cost savings of \$2,700,000 but he went ahead