

when there is a downsizing of the budget, when there are cuts made, whether that's a 2 percent across the board or whatever it is. I would hope that we do consider perhaps yet reducing this from four to two, but making a commitment that that is two that's sustainable, the original two in the bill. I don't disagree with Senator Byars on the need. I do recognize that nearly a third of the people with these problems in the state are on waiting lists. I think that we need to do what we can, and if that means cutting in other areas I'm willing to do that. But we can't, as Senator Moore said, have everything for everybody. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. There are no further lights. Senator Withem, do you wish to speak? There are no further lights. Senator Byars, do you wish to close on your amendment?

SENATOR BYARS: Yes, Madam Speaker, I appreciate it very much. And I want to thank everybody for entering into the debate, and I think it was all heartfelt, and I think people feel very emotionally on this issue. I think that they're willing to make the step forward to provide some additional funding, not nearly enough, and we definitely have done that. We started at 28 million, we went to 8 million, now we're at 4 million. And I certainly do, I absolutely hope Senator Moore is absolutely correct that this will be budgeted and go into the out years. I want you to understand that and want you to support that because I think it's honest and I think it's what we ought to do. You've heard all the good reasons. I can tell you about families, I can tell you about individuals that are in trouble, that are in crisis, and I'm not going to do that. You've heard those stories. I really hope that most of you who have pledged to me that you're going to vote for this follow through with that commitment, and I have no reason to think that you will not. And, with that, Madam Speaker, I would urge the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Byars. The question before the body is the adoption of the Byars amendment to LB 1136. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Please record.

CLERK: (Record vote read as found on pages 1817-18 of the Legislative Journal.) 26 ayes, 12 nays, Madam President.