

investment, and we are taking care of our children. As bad as it was to sit here and put probation officers against the developmental disabled, to me it is ludicrous that we are putting mentally ill children against developmental disabilities. I go back and remember the story that I heard of the young person who was mentally ill and the mother didn't want to do with him, and they took him to the Wayne Detention Center. I have visited the Wayne Detention Center. That is no place for a child with any type of mental problems. There is no nurse. There is no doctor. There is no one there. They were lucky. It was full and they were unable to place the child there, but there is a definite need for this in the state. I know we don't have the votes for this in the votes that we have been having, and I want to have some discussion and then I will pull this motion. But I think it is very important for us to take a little bit of time and send a message, and what really concerns me is I don't know who is in charge of spending the tax dollars in this state, the elected officials or the departments, and I think that is very much of a concern to all of us. I think it is time we sent the message that we are not going to tolerate these turf battles anymore, because not only are they at the expense of our tax dollars but, more importantly, they are at the expense of our citizens. I think this is an issue that deserved some discussion. I know it is late in the date, and I know it is time for us to go home, and we are all ready, but I would appreciate some discussion on this issue today. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wesely, followed by Senators Rasmussen, Lynch, Hall, Will, Crosby, Moore, Robinson, and Hillman.

SENATOR WESELY: I guess there will be a little discussion. Mr. Speaker, members, though many want to speak, I am going to be brief, I hope others will be as well. Just to simply point out that Senator Day is exactly right. The mental health issue, this road map has been very frustrating. The local mental health providers were told, go back, work together, come up with a plan, and then we will see if we can't work with you to address children's mental health. They did exactly as they were told, and when they came back with a plan, everybody that used to not get along but were able to get together and decide that they would unite on this effort, found they ran into a roadblock within the agencies of state government. This sort of conflict was not constructive. Instead of trying to bypass and work through the differences, it simply stopped progress on this