

(belt #2)

SPEAKER PROUD: Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: I move for the adoption of the amendments Mr. Chairman. I'll tell you what this does. There are two amendments together and I put them in one and they are concerned with the Nebraska Center for Children which is in the district that I live in, it is about 6 blocks from my home. There are two amendments and one has to do with the group homes that they have initiated and it doesn't cost any additional money. These amendments is policy and strictly the policy and they ask for one more house that can be started in a group home before the study and then one after the study that is to be done and this group home that they would like to start would be for girls of the minority group. These are the homes... this is the home that he is asking to have started. I have talked to Senator Marvel and the staff members on this and they might want to comment on it but they might want to comment on it but the other part of the amendment that I offer is that this juvenile study that they want to do, the recommendations and what they call a juvenile service study they feel that it can be done in the department of welfare easier than it can be done and probably better than it could be done in the office of planning. I think that one thing that should be pointed out to this body, is that a Dr. Bryan Soreta, with the University of Nebraska has done this same study on juvenile service in Connecticut and made a great service and a great contribution to Connecticut. They have promised us, the Department of Welfare that if this study is done through the department of welfare instead of the office of planning then they will get Dr. Soreta to do this study. He will consult all of the agencies and everybody that is concerned with juveniles. I think that these are the two main things that we need to have done and I say don't impede the group homes, lets don't slow the group homes down for the juveniles and for the way that they are trying to get them out into society, and work in society with them. I think that this amendment would allow us to have one more for a minority group and it will probably be an Omaha minority in the girls section, either Lincoln or Omaha and this is the request of the Nebraska Home for Children. I would certainly move for the adoption of this amendment.

SPEAKER PROUD: Senator Stahmer.

SENATOR STAHMER: Mr. President, members of the body, I would not support this amendment. I think that we have one agency of government that is a...a...that Senator Barnett wants to under take a comprehensive study for all juvenile services. I think that the question of juvenile services is far more important than having one agency of government doing it, if I understand him correctly and I think that I do. I think that the original committee decision to have the office of planning conduct this and bringing all of the agencies that are now impinging upon juvenile services of the state and they are considerable. I think that there must be at least eight agencies in the state now offering juvenile services. I think that if you limit it to any one of them, be it the department of education, the University of Nebraska or anyone else, you are going to get the kind of decisions that that one agency wants. I think that by having the department of planning which is not running any juvenile programs coordinates a study for planning that you are more likely to get unbiased opinions and bring in