

May 1, 1975

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 417. (Read title.) Mr. President, there are committee amendments by Senator Luedtke's Judiciary Committee.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Senator Luedtke.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: Mr. President, I move the adoption of the committee amendments. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the committee amendments came about as a result of our rather lengthy public hearing on LB 417, which is the comprehensive correctional reform act of this year. It came about as the result of witnesses bringing in suggestions for technical changes and improvements, and corrections to the bill. I'll go over them with you from the standing committee amendment as shown in the committee statement in your books. Most of them came in from . . . were submitted by Mr. Vitek, the Director of Correctional Services for the State, Judge Hastings, Doctor Hayworth, and many others representing various organizations in the State of Nebraska who had minor technical amendments dealing with labeling of persons and people in the bill, which were minor amendments. The major amendments come on 1. (which was on page 3, line 12) after "division" insert "which appointment shall be made not later than July 1, 1978". This is the section of the bill which deals with the mechanical structuring of the Department of Correctional Services, the separate Department of Corrections which we now have; and which states that when we state from a statutory point of view what kind of personnel must serve as the executive officers of the Division of Correctional . . . Department of Correctional Services, that these would not have to be filled. The table of organization would not have to be filled until July 1, 1978. This is in the bill because of the fact, not only because of the fiscal crunch of the times in which we're living, but also the fact that any of the Capitol construction to affectuate the policies and the plans of this bill would not be available until about 1978 when any new construction and facility would allow the shifting to be taking place from the maximum security to the medium security, to the community corrections. We couldn't do any of it until we got the first phase of it finished. That's why this bill is so important. That's the first one.

On page 5 strike beginning with "have". 2. In line 11, and the next one on page 7 striking lines 4 to 14. These are, again, technical changes which we have only placed in the bill for the purpose of clarifying what is meant in the particular bill with regard to the Division of Juvenile Services. Then on page 13, line 19 we merely take out the striking of two so that we do not inhibit the Department by saying they have to have "two". In other words, they may have more than two, or they may have only one alcoholic rehabilitation counselor and chemical dependency rehabilitation counselors. So that takes care of that particular problem. On page 24, line 9 on where we deal with definitions and labeling of women correctional officers, whether they be called matron, whether they be called supervisors, or deputy correctional officers. This is merely, again, a correction in terms, and who would perform those functions. On page 26, line 6 that is only a reference to a statute . . .