

March 1, 1994

LB 988

SENATOR ABOUD: Senator Pedersen,...

SENATOR PREISTER: Yes.

SENATOR ABOUD: ...I'm looking at your amendment that we adopted that dealt with this structured programming and I know you spent a lot of time dealing with this issue and I know this was your amendment and I'm trying to get a handle as to what you envisioned when we adopted this amendment. Now the language there discusses programming shall include strong academic program, classes in health education, living skills, money management, family and parent responsibility, substance abuse awareness, physical education, job training and job placement. Are we talking about hiring people here? Are we talking about hiring teachers and counselors? Is that what this amendment does?

SENATOR PREISTER: Senator Abboud, 988 already had an education program in it. You don't build a youth facility without having educational facilities in it. This, my amendment, made it specific of what type of things would be taught in there. There's already going to be education in any kind of a juvenile facility, there has to be.

SENATOR ABOUD: Well, there isn't currently, right?

SENATOR PREISTER: Yes, there is. We've had it out at Kearney but we don't have with the juveniles we have in the adult system, no. There is an education system there but they have to decide they want it or not. They have a choice when they are treated as an adult.

SENATOR ABOUD: So, basically, we're talking about hiring individuals to teach these classes. Is that what we're talking about doing with your amendment?

SENATOR PREISTER: Why sure, we're going to hire the teachers anyway.

SENATOR ABOUD: And how many are we going to hire?

SENATOR PREISTER: I don't have that, whatever it takes to educate them.