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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR DW. PEDERSEN: ...a law officer. You've got all these people. And so the plan in itself, we need to do something is what I'm saying, is what Senator Thompson's idea is not a bad idea at all. It is something that has to be worked on and brought in another year. It substantially, again, changes this bill, and I cannot see that it would...that we can...we don't have enough people at the table for this issue at this time, and I don't think it's a good idea. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator. The next speaker is Senator Suttle.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. When...historically, we have had a lot of trouble dealing with juveniles. We treat juveniles differently than we treat lawbreakers as adults. I don't understand where the department gets \$600,000 to put in a plan. There's no review. Senator Tyson is talking about LB 595. That's not part of this. The part of LB 595 is only the overseeing of the judges. There's no review panel. There's nothing that will cost the state anything more than they're already doing. I am just reiterating what Senator Thompson has said. But I don't know whether that has penetrated the minds of the people in the body. I think that the judges fought desperately to maintain control of how juveniles are watched and what is going on with juveniles. The facilities in Kearney and Geneva are...have a revolving door on them at this point. And we need more community-based involvement. And having...that has been the mantra of the department for...ever since I've been in this body, since 1997. Community-based services, community-based services. Well, suddenly we have decided we don't want community-based services; we want everything to come to Lincoln. I...you can't change the rules in the middle of the game and expect all of us to just say, well, that's a great idea, let's go back, let's take away the court's jurisdiction and just do everything from Lincoln. I don't think that's in the best interest of the child. And I'll give the rest of my time to Senator Thompson.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Thompson.