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April 18, 2001 LB 598, 599, 691

services for juvenile offenders. We have LB 599 which is the level 5 secured confinement. Now to take one piece out of that, to take the gatekeeper piece out, and you've destroyed the entire Governor's initiative. I would ask that you do not go that way. This will actually gut the bill, and put it back into the hands of the study. The people on that detention committee were outstanding; some of the best minds and people in the state, dealing with juvenile issues. And we can use the information that they brought forth, and the determinations that were made, and also make those a part of this program. But at this point in time, to stop, to eliminate the funding of a total juvenile justice program, I think would be wrong, and would ask the body to stay the course, not to do the amendment of Senator Thompson's at this time. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Suttle on the Thompson Amendment.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature. I rise to support the amendment. Senator Jensen, may I ask you a question?

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR SUTTLE: You...you've mentioned two bills, LB 599, and what was the other one?

SENATOR JENSEN: LB 691.

SENATOR SUTTLE: What are the status of those bills?

SENATOR JENSEN: They both have been moved out of committee and should be before the body, hopefully before the end of session.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Have they been prioritized?

SENATOR JENSEN: I can look and give you an answer.

SENATOR SUTTLE: That's okay. If this is so very important, I'm