

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

January 28, 2002 LB 112

ever be necessary to have a classified prisoner needing shackles to be out on a work program anyway.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator, Senator Wehrbein, who are you asking the question to?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Let Senator Pedersen, I guess, or Senator Baker, either one or both. Senator Pedersen.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Dwite Pedersen, would you respond?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Yes. Senator, there is nobody in the work release centers now. We've got two work release centers and there are some people that go out of the Hastings facility to do...that are in community status also, and none of them people are shackled or handcuffed to go out of the facility. In fact, some of them even get furloughs to visit family and things. But that isn't used now. I think Senator Chambers' intent is to make sure that we are not looking at going into chain gangs in the future.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: And I would agree with that. I will support Senator Chambers. I just wanted to, not so much for my own edification, because I could have found it out privately, but I think it ought to be on the record that, for the public's concern, there is not that, at this point there is no anticipation at this point. Obviously, we don't want to get into that situation, but from a safety standpoint, they are not going to be out there now anyway. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Further debate? Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on your amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I agree with everything everybody has said about the types of people who are likely to be allowed to engage in this work, but there is a sheriff out in Arizona who has shown that, without statutory protections, bad things will be done by some elected officials. We may not always have a sensible director of Corrections. We may have a set of circumstances where, as a condition to going out to do this work, a person