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LB 46, 407

and maybe that's accurate or not. I don't know but this makes sense.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BOURNE: We have a number of nonviolent offenders who are going to come up on their parole dates anyway. We can walk away from this with having made a structural change, having actually reduced the size and cost of government by, as Senator Pedersen mentioned, \$11 million. I'm inclined to support this unless we hear throughout the debate justifications for not doing it. While it's a dramatic step, other states are doing it. And I think, given our budget situation, it's time for dramatic action. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Senator Synowiecki, on the Pedersen amendment.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members. Senator Pedersen mentioned that this is totally unrelated to LB 46. I kind of disagree, Senator. I think it's expediting our move to community corrections, perhaps even shocking us into it. The Appropriations Committee did not focus much on the Lincoln Correctional Center. This facility was not offered up by the department as part of their 10 percent reduction. And as a result, we didn't spend virtually no time on it. But this concept that Senator Pedersen is promoting, closing very expensive facilities, institutions, and diverting and focusing more funds on cheaper alternatives, the community supervision, is basically the essence of LB 46. And this, during our discussion of Appropriations...our Appropriations Committee discussion did indeed, though, focus on the Work Ethic Camp in McCook and they also focused on the youth detention center in Omaha. And essentially the reason why our conversations focused on these two facilities is because the department offered them up as their...as part of their 10 percent cut. And during this discussion, members, I had mentioned that if you really want to save money, if you truly want to save money, along the lines what Senator Pedersen is doing, close these two facilities, the Work Ethic Camp and the youth facility, and divert some of that money to probation. That would be significant, extreme savings