

May 4, 1981

LB 346

here? You said there is a chance we would lose federal funds if we adopt this amendment. Can you tell us about the kind of money we are losing and the amount of money that would be filtered back to the counties out in our areas (interruption)?

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol, would you respond to that?

SENATOR NICHOL: I am going to say \$150,000, Senator Schmit, and if I am very far off I will let you know before we are through with this argument.

SENATOR SCHMIT: You mean \$150,000 for the entire state? Well, that averages out, if you take a hundred counties, that doesn't average into too much money per county, and when you take that into consideration out into the smaller counties which I am sure would get much less than the average, you can find that the employment of an attorney for the parents of the juvenile could well eat up whatever amount of money that would amount to very rapidly. Most of them can't be retained for less than a few hundred dollars and I think that we are setting a precedent here which again, Senator Nichol, I apologize for offering an amendment to your bill but I just can't let it go by without making some kind of a statement because I am concerned. I think there is more here than meets the eye and I am sure that we will be reminded of it from time to time if we pass the bill without the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I would just remind you, Senator Vickers says they are not changing the bill. This amendment does change the bill. What I am attempting to do is to leave the law the way it is now as far as jailing juveniles are concerned. Now it is in our juvenile code, it says you are not going to jail a juvenile under fourteen unless he is charged with an adult crime and that is the way we want to leave it. Now, Senator Vickers, if you can show me anywhere, anywhere, where it says you can now put a juvenile in jail, I will condescend to your amendment. You are the one wanting to change it, not me, so I urge you not to support this amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, I apologize to the body for dragging this debate on, and I would certainly not indicate that I know as much about this subject as Senator Nichol does, but from all of the information that I got, I agree with Senator Nichol that I am changing the bill. That