

addition of beds. There is a double standard in this state with reference to the treatment of female offenders as there is...female as opposed to male, as there is with reference to everything else. And it would have been good had the Appropriations Committee decided to embark on such large expenditures in this area to look at the entire picture and determine what this system is designed to do. If it's only designed to have a place to put people for a certain period of time, then let them back out, then they have done their job but a lot of policy can be formulated through the appropriations process. And I would have appreciated...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...a discussion by those who really are in the know on this subject as to the things that are being done to make this function as a corrections system. Correct means to make right or to make whole. We know what the term means. But this that is being offered here is not going to do that. And I'm not saying this to speak against the construction that is proposed at York. They have been in crying need of changes far more drastic than this for some time. So if this is a start in the direction of creating a better facility, fine, but we need to look at and consider why so many women are being sentenced to York and the disparate sentencing that does occur. And, because my time is running out, I won't try to start on any other thought at this point because I couldn't complete it and Senator Hannibal did give me some assistance with reference to an aspect of what I was concerned about.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hannibal, followed by Senator Moore.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, Senator Chambers asked some very pertinent questions, obviously, and those kinds of questions we try to address in committee to try to look at all forms of alternatives towards our correctional system. I apologize for not having the answers at my fingertips and I apologize to Senator Lynch for not having all the answers at my beck and call for these things. I will only plead that I just can't hold it all in my mind and I can't expect my staff to. We have books and books and we have thousands of items that come before us and we try to make decisions on those and we try to make a judicious decision. I can't remember all the details of them. This particular issue, however, does deal with capital construction. We tried to, in our corrections budget, the