

for a juvenile detention center, if I recall, we were \$297,000 just to remodel the floor for the satisfactory purpose and since serving on the Building Committee I did notice...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR NELSON: ...that there was a little over a \$100,000 that was for wiring alone that has been completed, so I don't know if these figures are correct or not. I'm assuming that the state would pick up the cost on remodeling or anything that needed to be done. So I'm not quite sure, I'll listen to some more of the debate, how I...what I will do on this, but I tell you it is needed.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Chizek, followed by Senator Abboud.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Mr. Speaker, colleagues, it is a problem. I think most of the people in this body recognize that it's a problem, but I'm not sure this is the answer. We perhaps have the cart before the horse. Some of the judges that I have talked to have expressed extreme reluctance in sending certain juveniles to Kearney. One just last week, identified that a 17-year-old that he was going to have to send someplace else who had been in Kearney once before, had an alcohol problem. They are not dealing with the problem. I pointed out to this same judge that if there was an alcohol problem and you were sending a 17-year-old to the penitentiary, they were not equipped to deal with those kinds of problems either. That, colleagues, is why this study is upon us. That's why the Appropriations Committee took the initiative that they took just this past week. That is why Senator Nelson and a number of members of the committee put a resolution together to deal with this specific problem. That's why Senator Chambers and myself visited with the Governor about the whole corrections arena, including juveniles, as late as yesterday morning. Yes, we can open it up; yes, you can create a number of beds there, but is that the answer? Is that the solution? I don't think it is. We get down to the point where this study must address parole, probation, alternative methods to sentencing, whether they are juveniles or whether they are adult prisoners. It just seems to me that we have the potential of throwing away 300 and some thousand dollars before we even know what we're going to do. Before the programs are in place, they are going to help these young people who have chemical dependency in one form or