

There hasn't been an increase in beds at Kearney for a number of years. The number of...the need has increased each year and is increasing now at a steady rate. The number of...not only the number, has the number of residents increased, but the length of stay has decreased which means, according to the people that I've talked to, that they are unable to, at Kearney, to put...to complete the kind of rehabilitation programs they feel need to be completed in a reasonable way. Obviously, it goes without saying that the problems are increasing in the urban areas, certainly that's where I'm most familiar, and, as Senator Scofield suggests, we need to do some fundamental changes in our juvenile justice system, but that, and the study will reflect that, I'm sure. But that does not at all argue against this appropriation. It just seems obvious if the number of residents is consistently greater by 15 to 20 inmates, residents, than the capacity, that it's not working, excuse me, that the system is not working appropriately at the Kearney Youth Development Center, so I urge the body to adopt this amendment. The study is not necessary to show us what is an obvious fact and I think we can move without a study on this particular issue at this time. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. You've heard the closing and the question is the adoption of the amendment. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? A call of the house has been requested. Shall the house go under call? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record.

CLERK: 13 ayes, 8 nays to go under call, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The house is under call. Members, please record your presence. Members outside the Chamber, please return. While in the process of going under call, I am very pleased to advise you that the delightful surprises that are now being passed out by the Pages are through the courtesy of Senator Emil Beyer who will have a birthday tomorrow. Thank you, Senator Beyer. Senator Hefner, Senator Kristensen, Senators Lamb and Landis. Senator Schmit, please, the house is under call. Senator Lindsay. Thank you. You requested a roll call, did you not? Thank you. The question is the adoption of the amendment. Mr. Clerk, read the roll.

CLFRK: (Read roll call vote. See pages 2578-79 of the Legislative Journal.) 16 ayes, 26 nays, Mr. President.