

PRESIDENT: The committee amendments are rejected.

CLERK: Senator, do you want to...?

PRESIDENT: Senator Scofield.

CLERK: Do you want to offer your amendment, Senator, or do you want to...?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Yes.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Scofield would move to amend the bill. Senator, I have AM2210 in front of me. (Scofield amendment appears on pages 551-52 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Scofield. Are you going to take the amendments first? Is that the idea?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Yes.

PRESIDENT: All right, thank you.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President. You have before you a copy of AM2210 that was distributed within the last hour for you and there is also, on top of that, a two-page memo titled "LB 663: Juvenile Services Act", white copy amendment. We thought it would be easier for you to follow it through if we just did the whole thing as a white copy so you had one piece that you could follow through. Let me walk through with you, first, the intent of the bill, and then what the amendments do to the bill. The history of this bill is actually quite lengthy and grows out of the passage of the 1974 Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Act which all of us are familiar with in terms of the kinds of pressures it has placed on our local entities of government to try to comply with this law and to not illegally jail juveniles. But beyond that, the intent of the act was to create an array of services not only to deal with serious juvenile offenders who perhaps need a secure detention, but also to recognize that on the front end of that is a major problem in terms of juvenile crime that if you put into place effective prevention and early intervention programs, that perhaps we can cut the crime rate, that perhaps we can make a difference. The basis of the bill is a belief that only communities know what their priorities can be. We see across this state a whole array of problems with juveniles. Some