

State of Nebraska and Omaha, in this case. He's trying to figure out where it should go, who should be looking. It appears to me there's considerable cooperative effort to do this, but it is not worked out yet, but it is in the bill that it will be in the Omaha area at this point, and I have no indication that it would be otherwise. I can understand the difficulty in locating a site. Satisfactory sites, apparently, are hard to locate, especially on a cost-effective basis, and especially getting into areas that will accept it. So, from that basis, that's all I know. Now the funding is there. We put in a million, two hundred thousand from the State Building Fund, in addition to reaffirming the cost of that, the facility. So far as the Appropriations Committee is concerned, the funding is there, whatever, wherever they decide to go, and it would move along accordingly, as soon as a site is found.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Well, I appreciate that, and to shed maybe a little bit more light, and, of course, Senator Wehrbein knows this as well, there were at one point, and maybe it has changed a little bit since then, three sites that actually came back from Omaha, and all three of them had some serious difficulties on selection. One was in a flood plain, the other was in a residential area that the public didn't want this prison, the secure prison facility there, and the other one was out...half outside the metropolitan city of Omaha. And I guess my real concern is this, I am frustrated to the point that my sense is that the City of Omaha and the county of Omaha, but, more importantly, the City of Omaha has not moved expeditiously on this matter, and by dragging the feet, by delaying, by other things being more important that we have not narrowed down a site. And I am very serious when I say this, and I hope the administration and those up in Omaha might be listening, that when the crime bill comes up or some other issue, I probably will have an amendment that will open up that process to anywhere in the State of Nebraska. If Omaha doesn't want it, that's fine. Or if they want it, they don't have a site that is doable, that's fine. But we need to have the construction so we can meet the time frame. And I think that amendment should be offered. I do appreciate the fact that we have the monies in there for site acquisition, but, at this point, unless we get a site that is reasonable, the money is not going to do us much good at this point. So I...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.