

SENATOR ROBINSON: Yeah.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: We've got about 10 to 12 million dollars in the budget right now that to meet the rising incidence of crime, we've got expanded probation officers, we've got computerization in the Patrol. I have a very detailed list of what money we're spending in that area and I feel that we may have to make that decision here. If we have to do more about crime and response to the crime issue, perhaps some of the other things that we want quite badly are not going to be able to make it. That's the kind of prioritization, and I think we're getting to the point we have to do.

SENATOR ROBINSON: I have no problem with it being a priority, but I guess I have a priority... I have a problem of where the... where the offset's going to come. It seems to me there's things in appropriate... main line appropriations bill that could be taken out. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Yes, thank you, Madam President, members of the body. I have a question for Senator Wehrbein.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR JENSEN: From what you were saying, it sounded to me like the time spent in Kearney by juveniles is about one-half of what it was in 1986. Is that correct?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That's correct.

SENATOR JENSEN: And is that because of the overcrowding or is that because the sentences are lighter than they used to be?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Oh, I'd say it's overcrowding because there's... I said we've had a 322 percent increase in the last four years at Kearney, those committed there for serious crimes. That's 156 more youth committed there in 1994 than there were in 1990.