

SENATOR JENSEN: All right.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: PSL and the money. Now that doesn't mean a year from now last month I won't be standing here asking, but that is not the request at this point and I... I have... I mean I guess our guess is as good as ours as to what our crime situation will be. It's up, what, 6 percent we said last week? With... whether juvenile services program will be off and running by that. We front-loaded that, by the way. That has 2 million dollars of General Fund in starting July 1st and we're hopeful of 2 million dollars in federal matching money. That's juvenile crime services coming into the second year, so that's 4 million dollars that we're putting into this area that we're anticipating over the next biennium.

SENATOR JENSEN: Okay. Thank you. I think that answers my question. I certainly would like to see, however, if there's any way that we can tap into perhaps some federal dollars on the federal crime bill that was passed to see if we can get some help along these lines. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Hillman.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Yes, Madam Speaker, members, just one... I would like to add just one quick comment. I think what you've got here is the beginning of the debate on crime and how we fight crime in the State of Nebraska and we'll go back to what we've talked about somewhat before in saying you're going to have to fund it. LB 988 was, in my estimation, a real good way to start to address crime in the State of Nebraska because you do it at an early age and the problems that we're having, if we are going to, in my estimation, fight crime at all, that everybody seems to want to talk about and do, this is the place you start. This is the place you start funding. We've already passed the legislation so before, in my estimation, you start any other legislation that requires more money you better think about funding the system that you currently have in place and this 500,000 dollars is a way to do that on one... to make the transition so those community-based programs can start up. We are, whether we get to a debate on further crime issues or crime bills I'm not sure, but you need to keep in mind that they are going to be expensive and we've already passed this legislation and I think we have an obligation to fund it. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Hillman. Senator Wehrbein.