

the utilities, already have the transportation provided, that already have the access and flow that this kind of a facility, secure confinement facility would need. So I am definitely voting against Senator Cudaback's amendment, but I also think that we should vote against the original (C) or 3, pages 1, 2 and part of 3 because I think that that area is there. I don't know what is holding it up, but I do know that there are parcels of lands that would be suitable that would have already the infrastructure that is required and the easy access, so I will vote against Senator Cudaback's amendment and also this portion of the Lindsay amendment.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Pirsch. Senator Preister.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President, friends all, I rise partly because I think it's time for a new voice to be interjected into some of the discussion and also out of concern for what we're doing here. I am in opposition to Senator Cudaback's amendment. I believe that it is important that the secure youth confinement facility be in Omaha and I believe that for two reasons. The first, I think Senator Chambers and in our prior discussions has articulated it already and that is because those youth do need that support system. Having worked at the Boys Club for 10 years, having driven many times between Omaha and Kearney to try to provide some support to some of those youth that were incarcerated in Kearney, I know the difficulty and the challenge of going those long distances from a personal perspective. I also know it from the perspective of the families who I tried to help to keep in contact and to make the transition back from the youth center in Kearney back into the community. But that isn't the primary point that I want to make right now because I think Senator Chambers and others have made that. But as I see the letters from Lexington and from Dawson area development and Cozad development, I, too, share Senator Chambers' concern about looking at this as an economic development issue. At the same time I understand the rural areas where there is a need for economic development to look at opportunities and to try to go for those when they see the chance. The offer of free land is kind of to me like being penny wise and pound foolish. We may get free land but let's look at some of the details of what that free land is really going to cost us. My understanding and correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe that Cozad is approximately 240 miles from Omaha. Two hundred and forty miles at roughly 60 miles an hour means