

when he said that was the basis, the underpinning of the entire juvenile justice process because what was intended, or maybe I should say, what is happening up to this point is we would have agencies competing to...actually it was anticompetition. They were competing to find out whose kid it wasn't because DSS would say, no, no, we know that this kid needs that but it's not our kid, it's DPI's kid and DPI said, no, no, it's not ours, it's the court's child and whose child was it anyway? Then we found out that nobody accepted the child and what happened was the child got the punishment but we didn't give any of the support help to the child. There was no counseling, there was no family counseling, there was no rehabilitation, there was no abuse working with the mental health people. None of that occurred because we were always competing on whose child it was because whoever child it was, that agency had to pay up and nobody wanted to do that. So Senator Lindsay correctly pointed out that the community-based programs that's going to be started in pilot areas of which, obviously, Omaha is going to be one of those because that was where the site was going to be and all the planning has gone on towards that end and the community-based programs in the beginning was that an evaluation would be done in the beginning of the process, not after the fact, and once the evaluation was done in a simplified version, the money would follow the child and it wouldn't have to be just something that was sanctioned by DSS. If it was in a rural area and a private entity was offering mental health services, those services could be accessed. And we would be able to get the help and expand the help so that the children now who the service is not available would be able to have the services available in the beginning at the same time or in the process as they are being also serving their punishment for whatever crime they may have committed. That was the linchpin of it. It was decided earlier by...a year ago by this Legislature and I'm amazed at how many people forgot or either that or they're saying, gee, I didn't mean what I voted on last time. I wish we could go back to the record and I wish I had it, how many of the senators voted to say the first one was going to be in Omaha, and if I recall, there were very, very few votes no and I don't recall many members changing from that year to this year. In fact, I'm not sure that even Senator Cudaback may have voted for that one. And the rationale of doing it was not just because all the kids or the majority of the kids are going to come from that area. That wasn't necessarily the rationale totally at all. If you'll remember the rationale, the discussion was how large of a facility should it be? And the facility, it was