

the body. I will only speak, I believe, one time on the amendment. On the other portions that Senator Witek has talked about, quite honestly, they have nothing to do with the bill. They may be good arguments for other issues. This bill has nothing to do with the juvenile facility in Omaha. So those costs she was talking about can take place when we get discussing appropriations bills on whether they will put the monies for that program or not. It has nothing to do with the partnership programs and the cost that they're doing...doing there. Those arguments can be on LB 1044, and, Senator Witek, on all of the other things she talked about, when those bills come up, I'd be delighted to hear her comments on that, and she and I may agree on some of them. But, unfortunately, none of them have to do with this particular bill. The amendment I will oppose only because we already do it. There's no need for it. They are code agencies. They give all of the spending and all of the breakdowns that they do to the Appropriations Committee, and to the Nebraska Legislature. Anybody who wants to know how much they are spending on personnel, how many personnel they have, how many dollars they're spending for the actual programs still going to children and to the juveniles that are getting into trouble, we already have the information because that's our job, to make sure on the Appropriations Committee, and the Legislature, that we spend the money wisely and we're informed. So the first part of the amendment is not necessary because it's already done. The second part of the amendment is just not a good amendment. I chose my words carefully because, in essence, what Senator Witek is trying to do is on a program that we began two years ago in 988, and we all knew at the time that we're going to have to put the dollars so that these kids don't get into the facilities in Lincoln, that they don't go to the adult facilities, that we relieve the pressure at Kearney, that we relieve the pressure at Gret...at Geneva, that we can get the community-based programs in those areas so that the children and their families can be treated in their area where there are no services available at all. None. What Senator Witek would do in the second part of the amendment is say for some great study on this that we want to do from the Department of Justice to say we're going to limit it to the cost of living increases. We, the Legislature, will decide how to spend the money. This bill will be on Final Reading, and we, the Legislature, will decide if it's worth the dollars or not. I'll be delighted to talk about that portion of it, but this amendment that would limit it to 2 percent would even say that if we wanted it to grow to meet