

starting in 1994, we put 21 security people out at Nebraska State Penitentiary; in 1994 we put two support staff in; in 1996 we're putting 12 more, almost 13 more security people in at the department or at the Diagnostic and Evaluation Center; in 1995 we put in five more security people; we put in one more...we're putting in one more support staff and six more security people in '96; and at LCC a total of 19,000...19 new support staff over two years, security staff over two years and one new support staff. I just give you those figures to illustrate the fact that we are having to add more and more support staff in our prisons. And I have to bring you the news that it's still not good enough. We're still having a lot of overtime, I know, out at Lincoln Correctional Center, we still need to add more staff people, and it's not going to end soon. Over the last few years we've added, in the total Department of Corrections, 65 security people in '94, 18 in '95, and 64...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...in '96. That's a huge expenditure. I just wanted to make people aware of it. And I also want to let you know that I at least intend to keep track of this issue and maybe be back at a later date with, you know, some suggestions that we request more staff. But, Senator Wehrbein, on this particular issue I really don't know what to do. I don't know whether to support the Appropriations Committee proposal on the temporary housing or not. It is temporary, although is it true that this kind of housing will last about 30 years? Forty years? Do we have any evidence of that? Have we had this kind of housing in place for that long anywhere?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I don't know of any.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Okay. Well, I'll just listen to the debate. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Madam President. Want to say first of all that Senator Wehrbein knows that I'm going to make the comments that I'm going to make. I do not support this amendment and I want to try to provide the reasons why I don't support the amendment that is before us. I hope everyone understands that this is a critical decision that's before us.