

March 14, 1996

LB 1189

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you mean '99?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Ninety-nine.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Have they considered that construction costs can increase based on wages and other things that might happen in the labor market? Did they factor all that in to this cost?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, because it has already gone from 50 million, a couple of years ago, to now 53 to 55 million.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And how did they determine what those labor costs are going to be in 1999, when some of the construction is...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I don't know exactly, but they use a factor, I assume, of 3 to 5 percent growth in the construction industry covering, that's an assumption on my part.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, but at least they had some kind of figure that they used to give...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...some additional money so it's not just a static rate?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Now suppose, when this study comes back and they are doing this design and you have people involved who don't just look at brick and mortar but consider things that relate to what puts people into prison and any kind of trends, and would say it doesn't look like what has been happening, in terms of an increase in prison population, is going to continue. That wouldn't have any impact on you, would it? You'd still want 480-beds because you're determined that that...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.