

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The concern right now though is that you don't want to spend more than a certain amount of money, right?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, obviously that's a consideration, is the amount of money we spend, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If we cut one of the Quonset huts, there would be more money available for other things, though, wouldn't it?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, unless we got involved in more restrictions on our correctional system via court or something, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And our time is up, so I won't ask you another question right at this moment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Lieutenant Governor Robak and members, I have to be frank. I'm a little concerned about talking about these kind of issues, given people we've got up in the balcony. But on the other hand, we can talk about it in such a way that most can understand. But we did, in the Appropriations Committee, discuss, I think at some length, these kinds of concerns and problems with this concept and a lot of others. I think, as you heard before from Senator Maurstad, not all of us were too excited about building these Quonset, temporary type of facilities. But if anybody thinks that this kind of thing hasn't been going on with the system we got now, they got to be smoking something. And sometimes it's just as bad, maybe sometimes even worse. You know when I was on the county board, a long time ago, we tried never to have three-person cells for this very reason, we tried to avoid that so two couldn't pick on one. We know of a few, at least two or three circumstances where there were two people in a cell and it was one-on-one. So the specific question we asked, because of that, was, do you do anything administratively to understand who these people are; if they have this kind of behavior and make sure you don't put a 40-year-old person like this in with a kid that's just come in off the street at 20? They said they tried to, but sometimes the system doesn't work. You know my concern is I think this is a terrible thing to do to anybody, it's a dehumanizing, terrible