

appropriation...more than the \$600,000 appropriation to acquire the property. That would be eaten up if we...if we delayed it for a year to move it somewhere else or to rethink it or whatever. So I think if we're...if we're seriously going to vote in favor of this amendment, we have to take a look at that and make sure we know which direction we're going because the money in the bill is going to be spent. If we intend to build a facility at some point, the money being appropriated is going to be spent, that's not a question. It's a question of whether we start the construction now or whether the delay, the increase in cost occasioned by the delay are where those dollars will be spent. I understand what Senator Pedersen is doing, but I must disagree with him on this and I would urge that the amendment be defeated.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Fisher followed by Senators Vrtiska, Robinson, and Engel.

SENATOR FISHER: Mr. President and members, I have had the fortunate opportunity to work with Senator Schmitt...or Senator Schmitt, Senator Pedersen, and I know he serves on a couple of national committees on juvenile crime, he's very knowledgeable and I think he makes a good point. And I think we are at, on a brink of spending a considerable amount of money and I think we want to spend it right, I think we all have that same interest there in our hearts and even knowing full well we must do something about it. But I think we have to listen to what Senator Pedersen has to say and I'm going to support him on this issue. I know it's a tough one and I think that we may be back yet, we may open up some eyes. But I think there are times when we have to sit back, take a deep breath, and look at what we have committed to and what we're going to get out of it. I think perhaps there may be some better alternatives out there that we ought to be looking at when we're spending...we're spending real serious money right now and I think we may want to look at it in a little different light. So I'm not...I'm going to support this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body. I'd like to ask Senator Pedersen a question if I could please.