

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, one of the things that bothers me, and I guess I...I appreciate what you're doing and I think well of it, but one of the problems I have is some of these kids have committed murder or rape or some violent crime, and now who's going to take them into a program and deal with them? That's what I'm trying to find out.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Presently they would go to this new facility. But without the facility, right now, they are in prison.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I understand that. What do you...what do you intend to do in place of putting them in prison or putting them in a facility...

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Keeping them in prison, where they presently are. Separating them by housing unit, we could very easily, there's different units, housing units at OCC, LCC, NSP. They could make an adolescent housing unit. And with the rules and regs they have now, set up a structured program for them and do programming with them right where they're at.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Okay, okay. I didn't get your opening and I apologize for that, but I was trying to find out exactly what...what your plan was because obviously some of these kids have to be confined, and I understand what you're...

SENATOR PEDERSEN: That's right.

SENATOR VRTISKA: And the last question is, if that. in fact, what happens then, what's the transfer of cost from that type of a facility and what we're actually doing now? I mean, in the bill that you're opposing?

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Well, secure confinement, I don't know exactly what it is, but I know secure confinement is much higher to operate than it is to operate a medium-type or a minimum-type security facility.

SENATOR VRTISKA: But you're saying there's a place that they can add on where you're at now and do the very same thing without having a new facility?

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Yeah, all you'd have to do is go into one of