

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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frustration with the state system. This is a way we can force the state system to work. And because of the potential of the new secure confinement places, we're going to relieve some of the pressure on Kearney and Geneva, and if we're able to pass LB 652, we can make those facilities better and serve children better. But this particular amendment will create a more unified system and we will be able to then solve some of the problems for the taxpayers in those two counties who are relying on property tax to pay these costs. So what we're hopeful that, when we get to that discussion we'll have an interesting discussion about that issue; they're all tied together, and it may not seem that way but they were all tied together. We can't solve the counties' issues if we don't have secure placements to relieve pressure on some of our other facilities. We need the facilities upgrade so we can do a good job for the kids, but we're going to need the next amendment to force the system to create that oversight in the Office of Juvenile Services. It's...it's kind of a clear policy decision, but it's a way to assist the counties. So I'm just kind of attempting to stall. I think I'll...oh, we're ready. We have the amendment, yea, so I would like to request a substitution. (Laugh) Sometimes compromise and negotiation is a lot more complicated for the Bill Drafter than it is for those of us who are just talking about it, so I appreciate their fine work here.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Thompson, your request for substitution, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Thompson would like to withdraw AM1261 and offer, in lieu thereof, AM1263, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 1441-1445.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Any objection to the withdrawal and substitution? It's so ordered. Senator Thompson, before you open on the substitute amendment, I'll give you an opportunity to look at it. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Thompson, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR THOMPSON: I'm going to just, for those of you who have copies of the previous amendment, will this be on the screen or should I just work from the previous?