

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

April 27, 1999 LB 505, 880

taking 'em in, holding 'em as long as you can, and releasing 'em, with no gradual admission back into society. Maybe we need to take a look at that, how we could get more people out of prison, how we could teach them a work ethic, and have them come out decent citizens instead of angry citizens. We have to look at a lot of them things. And when you're taking a look at \$685 million in the next 5 years, that adds up. That's a big number for any of us. This is not asking for new money, it's asking for used money in a different way, and I believe it's a wiser way.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR DW. PEDERSEN: Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Pedersen. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, there was a lot of work done to put together this amendment which is before us. We now have people saying, well, why don't you put some money in the budget for Kearney and Geneva? That's not how we started. The Appropriations Committee wasn't willing to do that. The Governor didn't put it in his budget. It's only when we do something that forces action that people start to become reasonable and say, well, yeah, this is something we need to do, why don't we do it. Senator Thompson and I sat side by side, a few days ago, when we discussed her juvenile bill, and she was crying about where is the money going to come from to do these various things, because the only place she could find it was through a cigarette tax. And people were saying, well, we want to...if we're going to tax cigarettes, let's just do it through LB 505, let's not break it up into little, bitty pieces. So poor Senator Thompson has to say, well, where can I get the money from? And they wouldn't say it to her, but in their mind they'd probably say, well, go stick up a bank. But nobody said, well, the Appropriations Committee is willing to put some money in there for Kearney and Geneva. Nobody was saying that. She and I sat here, agreeing that the best way to fund these kind of operations was through the General Fund. We're two people, two votes. So we get together, tricked and fooled, at least I was, maybe everybody else was in on the joke,