

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

May 4, 1999

LB 880

do it all the time. Judges send people to jail, county jail. They give them so many days. They let them out on probation again. They violate probation, they send them back. They do it all the time. That happens. They do not work with parolees, and I believe postincarcerated programs...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN PRESIDING

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: ...is where Community Justice needs to be working and needs to be getting these people in work release programs and bringing them gradually back into our society. The money, the million dollars that was given to that program, people, was given on this floor hopefully to keep me from trying to stop the new prison. It was given as fast and as quick as anything that has ever happened, and it came back and I didn't vote for it, but we now had a million dollars and we make it sound like we have put all kinds of thought into giving this million dollars to a program that is necessary. All that I have asked is that we put this on hold and let probation already do the service it's now doing which is delivering a good 80 to 90 percent of what these people want to do through Corrections. Probation has already got its place in the state. They got 19,000...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: ...community-based offenders that they're working with. Did you say time?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I support the Wehrbein amendment. I guess that my...my recollection of how we got into this area, at least into the funding part, is a little bit different, and I will admit that the last time that this was up, I was not paying as close attention as I needed to and supported the Pedersen move to put a hold on this money. And so I think that it's really important to go back and look at what we are trying to accomplish