

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

May 4, 1999

LB 880

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. I think where we're going off is the form that they handled...handed out yesterday, and I've showed this to you before, on the counties that have submitted to the programs. The Office of Community Justice had the money to go ahead and do this much work and to set up these things, but a couple of the concerns that you might want to look at down here when you look at the plan itself is, you know, the different juvenile programs that they're talking about. We already have an Office of Juvenile Services that does grants. They have some granting authority. But most of the granting in this area has always been done by the Crime Commission and I tried at one time to try and get this money over to the Crime Commission and give them the authority to hand it out, which they have done for years and know that business and would like to see them continue to do, but that was not acceptable by the department at that time because they wanted to do it this way. I can't say I'm against the reconsideration because I'm not that...that isn't the way I legislate. If that...if there's something that needs to be reconsidered here, I would certainly agree with it. And I want you to know all the facts up right straight on all sides when you vote. I came down to the Legislature because this is an area where I have some expertise and wanted to bring some knowledge to the Legislature in this area and working. I still see this as a complete duplication of services and believe that it needs to be done much better. If this were business, obviously, you know, we would be all in big trouble for the way we switch back and forth and the way we change programs, and I'm not talking about on this vote because I...I've always basically supported people who would put up a reconsideration vote, especially for this type of reason. And Senator Bohlke I know is doing that so she can get the right information and vote for what she believes in. I don't want to take anybody to the cleaners or give you any herrings, red herrings. I want you to vote on what you think is best. But I do see this, again, as a duplication of services and I believe it's a \$50,000...\$500,000 that is going to be money that could be used for much better causes and we need to come back and do this in a better and just way. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Chambers.