

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

May 4, 1959

LB 880

or the other. I want to give you some information so you can vote the way you feel fit with that education. Right now, the Office of Community Justice is not authorized, even the way it sits in statute in the state of Nebraska. If it was, then why do they keep bringing a bill every year that gives them authorization? And that was the bill that Senator Brashear carried this year that he and I made the agreement on. I can see the handwriting on the wall easy enough for this bill because there's money that has been promised, I guess, to communities, whether they had the authorization to do so or not. And when we can get our own hands into the pockets we will go for it, and I'm not any different than any of you. However, I do believe that it's a waste because it's a duplication of services. I wanted to answer Senator Bohlke, basically not answer her but tell her that electronic monitoring, if they're going to get money for that in your community, you know who will be giving it? The money will be given out by Corrections, but the work will be done by Probation. They will be the ones who put them on monitoring and they will be the ones who do it, so isn't that silly we got two different departments doing the same thing? I will be back next year with the same bill that I had this year, priority bill, and hopefully we'll have it decided with good debate by that time whether Corrections should have Community Justice or the Office of Probation under the judicial system. And if Corrections should have it and it comes out that way then I will probably be one who would support moving Probation under Corrections, because there's no sense in having this competition in these two different departments going on the way we currently are. Five hundred thousand dollars is a lot of money. It could pay for a lot of mentoring. It could pay for a lot of A bills that we have. It could help the Governor with his rebate plan. But I understand with it going back to the communities in the way that has been promised, whether that's a legal commitment or not, it is a moral commitment. I could see why you would vote to support Senator Wehrbein's amendment. Thank you for your listening and I appreciate that you do listen and give me some understanding in that field. I want you to know that the people who are running the Office of Community Justice for Corrections are good people and they will work hard to keep it up, but they'll also work very hard next year to make sure that they get to stay there and not go under Probation. And they do a good job and they want to do a good job and