

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

February 9, 2000 LB 652

facility. But under federal law, if this is an adult-run facility, by the adult system, the juveniles from the juvenile system cannot access it. This transfer will then allow both populations to be served by this facility. All of this bill, once we get to it, will not take effect till July 1, 2001, giving departments ample time to prepare for a transfer of the facility and also to prepare for those youth in out-of-home placements that are currently...have been placed...or, not currently would be placed, but after 2001 would be placed with the department. So, to back up, LB 652 is no longer on the table. We've already funded it, here it is, and we will deal with the facilities at Kearney and Geneva through other methods on the floor. Second, what I've talked with Chairman Brashear about is to vote down the committee amendments, which he will describe to you next, so that we can get to the compromise amendment, which is the blue amendment. Just like the juvenile justice system and understanding it is a complicated process, I guess it just naturally follows that what we do when we're trying to deal with these very complicated and difficult issues ends up to be a complicated process. During the discussion, I will give you reasons for why I believe, as a body, we need to take these two specific actions, and you have lots of paper on your desk that will support that and give you information about that. But I'm, in my opening, I want to use the opening to make it perfectly clear what we'll be discussing this morning; that LB 652, as it's described on your buff sheet, is off the...off the plate and we're only going to be, hopefully, dealing with these two issues that were the results of numerous meetings and among the Department of Health and Human Services, the counties and other interested parties. And I would like to thank Senator Dwite Pedersen for making this his priority bill. I think it's important that we discuss a variety of issues dealing with juvenile justice this session. There are many things that we need to do. These are just two aspects of the problem that we can solve by passing this bill today. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Thompson. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Brashear, on the committee amendments to LB 652. (AM0717, Legislative Journal page 1045, First Session, 1999.)

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Yes, Mr. President. One of the joys of