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this point in time, we have a critical need to serve those serious and chronic youth and we need to take that facility back for oversight for the juvenile system. They can contract with the Department of Correctional Services to continue to run that facility and then it can serve under 18-year-olds who have been convicted as adults and youth who have serious problems in the juvenile system who should not be in Kearney and should be in a higher level of treatment and a higher level of security. To address, well, Senator Chambers, I did want to address one of the concerns that you have. I'll wait for...one of the worries that I have, and I have heard this from judges and I heard it indirectly that it was stated by prosecutors, is as long as we have this facility in the adult system for access by the adult system that more youth will be convicted, be prosecuted as adults to...so that they can be served by that facility. I consider that a very serious policy problem for us as a state. We spend most of our time in creating these services. We create a system where people are chasing the placements and they aren't appropriate necessarily. I am worried that if we don't let this facility be under the oversight of the juvenile system more youth will be prosecuted as adults so they can access that facility. I think by giving the facility...the juvenile system access to this facility we can prevent some of that prosecution which, and I did ask one judge about it and I did hear from another person who had talked to some prosecutors about it, and it's only been open...

SENATOR CROSBY PRESIDING

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...a year and a half, so it's difficult to track that and there are people who probably disagree with that, my view of that, but I have that concern. It does not serve us well to have youth who could be handled in the juvenile justice system being prosecuted as adults only so that we can access the level of services or because we lack appropriate services in the juvenile system. That gives them a record and even less of a shot at success. So that's what this amendment is about and I think we'll have a significant amount of time to talk about it. These are very, very difficult policy issues, they are serious policy issues; but they give us an opportunity to make things