

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

February 9, 2000 LB 652

the Legislature, the issues that Senator Chambers raises were all part of negotiations back when the facility was, by this Legislature in 1994, designed to serve both populations. I have in my hand a project steering committee meeting agenda from March 2, 1995. Those are the very issues...think I'll wait till Senator Chambers can hear this answer.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR THOMPSON: I just wanted to make clear I have...the issues that you were discussing, who's going to be there. These are minutes from a 1995 project steering committee meeting. There were extensive meetings held between the Office of Juvenile Services, Department of Correctional Services in preparation for the facility, up until 1997, which was going to be used by both, used by both. And sorry. There was planning done, there were consultants hired to answer those very questions that Senator Chambers has addressed here. That was part of the operational plan for the facility when it was to be run under the auspices of the juvenile system. And they...the intake criteria included profile characteristics, offense patterns, court of jurisdiction, length of stay, program requirements of youth entering, which was then called SYCC, the Secure Youth Confinement facilities. And they worked out, it's my understanding, I wasn't there, but that they had to work out all those issues, those intake issues between both systems when they were planning for this facility. And it was only after it was taken to...or given to the adult system, on the floor amendment in 1997, that that was all dropped and it went onto an adult system. But, clearly, there was a project steering committee that included both the correctional services, the YRTC, and I would be happy to share the types of things that they worked on. But I believe all of that can be addressed. As part of this process, we give them lead time to be able to do this, but a lot of work has been done and consultants were hired to assist with that merging of the two populations back in 1995. How much time do I have?

SENATOR CROSBY: You have about two and a half minutes.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Okay. One of the difficult decisions that we have is to decide what is the highest and best use of this