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And one of the things that we need to take up now and take care of now is the...are the facilities at Geneva and Kearney. They are...should be an embarrassment to everyone on this floor because they are in disrepair, they are overcrowded, and they do not serve the children that we send there. And it's time that we chose to show some leadership on this and begin to address this problem. And, with that, I will yield the rest of my time to Senator Thompson.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Kiel. Senator Thompson, you have about four minutes. Senator Thompson, Senator Kiel yielded you about four minutes, little under four minutes.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, and thank you, Senator Kiel, I appreciate it. I would just like to take you back in history a little ways on this, it isn't...it's fairly recent history. But in 1992 and 1993, the Legislature created a position in the Crime Commission, and Mark Martin, who is now the Director of the Office of Juvenile Services, was hired for that position and worked with a commission of people to reform the juvenile justice system. One of the things that they recommended was that in state government we have a focal point for these issues, for the state issues, and the Office of Juvenile Services was created. We knew we needed more in terms of community-based services, the number of parole officers was inadequate. There were a number of inadequacies, including the fact that we had no secure confinement facility for youth in this state. One of my jobs, as...at the time I was Deputy Chief of Staff to the Governor, was being liaison to that group. And I worked with Senator Bernard-Stevens, who carried this piece of legislation back in those years. The discussion at that time was that, this particular facility that we're talking about, there was an interest in the department having the facility at that time. But that Legislature made the decision that this should be run by the Office of Juvenile Services, thereby serving both systems. What you're being asked to do today won't be that different from what that Legislature did in 1994, and that was to create this level, this is the highest serious, I call it the deep end of the pool level. These are kids who have serious needs, who need to be with the state for a long period of time, have a lot of issues to work on and need treatment. We don't have a way to serve those youth at this point in time. Two