

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

February 9, 2000 LB 652

money to treat, because we're building...spending too much money on mortar and bricks. And when we come back with our budget next year, for those of us who will return or may not return, somebody in our place, we'll be asking for more money and more money for programs, and yet there won't be any...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR DW. PEDERSEN: ...because we need to spend more on bricks and mortar as we presently are now. I never miss the opportunity to say we are building a \$75 million prison in Tecumseh, Nebraska, which will have 435 new, full-time employees who aren't on our payroll yet, for the same amount of prisoners that we have today in the state of Nebraska. Do you think there will be any money left for programs? We need to do what we need to do now and not wait for that time. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Pedersen. Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Madam President. I would like to turn my time to Senator Thompson.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you. Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Just to back up and talk a little bit about what this bill is and what it does. I was just asked if there's a fiscal note to this bill, and the way the bill is written, nothing takes effect until July 1, 2001. So it won't impact this budget. The difference that will happen under this bill is that the entire budget that's currently allocated to this facility in Omaha, and to...and the facility, will be transferred to the juvenile system. And that...the way it worked when it was transferred before was the budget was in HHS and the staff budget was in HHS, and it was transferred from the HHS budget to the Department of Corrections budget. We're just doing the opposite of what was done in the 1997 session. So that's the way this facility will be funded. In the future, I think a future policy issue is to look at using the other land that is there to be able to add to the housing units, to be able to serve a greater number of youth from the adult system. But that's another policy question. That's just an option. To me that's another policy question. On the other