

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

March 14, 2000 LB 1217

know is needed at Geneva and can provide, in addition to housing, the needed medical area. Those of you who have been out there, it's...it's like a closet. In fact, I was told at one point it was just a hallway that was closed off. We have girls who are pregnant. We have girls with significant health needs. They should be able to be served in an area that's adequate for the types of needs for medical treatment that they have. We have girls with significant mental health problems. The new multipurpose facility will be able to provide a way that they can have treatment and be segregated for the purpose of that treatment. So this building goes a long way to get things started. It doesn't address everything. I wish we had the money for everything, but to me it's a priority. We talked about it last year. It's confirmed in the plan that it needs to be done. We could transfer the money to any of these other purposes the first three years if we chose to. I guess I'm suggesting, and that's why I offered this bill, that this should be the way we use this...allocate this money this year. (Microphone malfunction)...has any questions.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Raikes, minute and ten seconds.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Senator Thompson. So if I understood you correctly that we do, in fact, have these fire hazards and so on in these other buildings, you believe that that's...that that money to fix those problems should come out of a regular maintenance type of budget. But, by the same token, we don't have that money, right? So we're going to be proceeding to build a new building while not fixing the fire hazards, or do I have that wrong?

SENATOR THOMPSON: I would probably have to yield to someone on the Appropriations Committee, get the exact answer, but last year there was money put in the budget for that purpose that is being used for that purpose by the administration, and I will look up the veto. The Governor vetoed some of that money out, but I...I will look up the veto message because he says that's what his first priority was for the money last year that was appropriated, which was in excess of a million dollars that they're using to deal with those fire issues. However, if all housing units on both campuses...