

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

March 14, 2000 LB 1217

family into the process, into the recovery, if you want to call it that, into the rehabilitation.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR JENSEN: They spend time with the family. There is follow-up by the Brown School system to see how they are doing. The recidivism rate, I think, is, although not perfect, certainly a higher percentage than what we're getting out of both Geneva and out of Kearney. And then probably the most or the thing that stands out is it's a one-year contract, renewable another year, and so we can enter this without a great deal of dollars. Yes, there's dollars there, there's \$300,000 on the first year, but if it's not working we can end it, where so many...what do we do down at Tecumseh where we've got a \$70 million facility, there's no way that we end that. There's no way that we fire all the people to operate that system, so it's going...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR JENSEN: ...ongoing. But what I'm saying is if we don't address this situation, if we don't find a better way...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time. Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Dwite Pedersen.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature. I hear what Senator Chambers is saying, what Senator Jensen is saying. We're talking about just some money alone, \$300,000 this year, and I understand, Senator Jensen, that's a one-year contract, but I also understand that the Brown School is going to be investing money to build this facility, hopefully, that they're going to have a five-year contract in the future to pay it off. Now I understand they're taking a risk, but how much of a risk they're really taking I don't know. We must not forget that this is not being done alone on \$300,000; \$2.8 million of this is coming from federal grant money, so we're not just putting \$300,000 of our money into this. We're putting our federal tax dollars into this, 200...\$2.8 million, which could be used on other projects, if necessary, if we found them better. And the thing that I