

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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March 14, 2000 LB 1217

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So if the nonviolent first offender is not going to be sent to this camp, and those are the ones to be sent there, who will be sent to this camp?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: It would have to be people who have been in and out of the system at least once or twice before, or more.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But they wouldn't fit the definition of the first-time offender, would they?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: They would not.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So, by the definition that they've given us, you can't put any people in this camp. Is that right?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: That's right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: These are the kind of issues we would have had a chance to work our way through without doing it on bogus motions, but since that's what might be necessary, in order not to waste time on a vote I will withdraw this bracket motion.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Motion is withdrawn. Further debate on the Chambers amendment to LB 1217? Senator Dwite Pedersen.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor and members of the Legislature. I just came across something on the...the explanation of the...what they would be doing and the age group of kids and it concerns me greatly. I won't take up much of your time on this, but most of the youths, from the age of 13 to 18 years of age, will be treated in intense 90-day residential program and adjudicated, are court-referred youth. That, in itself, brings back to what Senator Chambers was talking about. If we'd had a bill and had this in committee, whatever committee it would have been to...my guess it would have been Judiciary, I would have asked the question, why are we putting 13-year-olds in a Wilderness Program? I don't know if any of you...there's some of you, I know, that taught school before. Some of you have worked with youth. But there's quite a bit of difference in the age group of 13-, 14- and 15-year-olds and those that are older. When you work with a group of kids of 13- and 14-year-olds, I still call them