

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

March 14, 2000 LB 1217

teenyboppers in my own mind because they're real "giddish", lots of questions, and they're very hard to get serious, especially when you're looking at intense therapy that a Wilderness Camp looks at. The programs that I've sent kids to, called Outward Bound, does not take kids that are under 16 years of age, unless they've changed in the last 6 to 8 years, because I could have not sent people to them kind of programs in that length of period because I haven't worked with young people who have that kind of money to go to them programs. You need to have some kind of maturity when you do group therapy, which is something I do for a living, to get through to these people. You're not doing an elementary school teacher program or a...even a middle school, junior high type program where you have to have a lot of discipline, because you hope that discipline is going to be there before you start group. Wilderness Camp groups are very intense. They teach them how to work through things together and how to mount some of their problems, helping one another. It is a program, as I said before, that I think works, but this age group in itself scares me and I need...I needed to mention that after I read this. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Pedersen. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Education Committee will have an Executive Session now.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Don Pederson.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body, Senator Chambers has been discussing a first-time nonviolent offender. Frankly, I don't know where that came from. That was never in any material that I'd received. What...what I understood that this program was to cope with are those young people, young boys, who would be going to Kearney under any circumstances. This gives an alternative to being maintained at Kearney. They evaluate these young boys and then, from that point, they are, if it appears to be in their best interest and in the best interest of the...of the system, they are assigned then to go to the Wilderness Camp and these...these young people are put in pods that fit with their age group and with their...with the problems that they have had as far as