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there for alcohol. Now, is that accurate? I don't know. But we're not talking about releasing violent offenders. And for anyone to suggest that is nonsense. I want to also mention, other states are doing this. Both Kentucky and Oregon, this very year, released prisoners, nonviolent prisoners, just like what we're advocating here. These are prisoners that are eligible for parole. They would go out anyway. They would be released anyway.

SENATOR BAKER: One minute.

SENATOR BOURNE: It just seems to make sense. We have...the Corrections Department itself recommended eliminating two facilities. Senator Pedersen had a different idea that seems to make sense. And when you read the newspaper, and Governor Johanns said that he's so upset that he's going to veto...he's probably going to veto the whole bill, well, quite honestly, he would have anyway, truth be known. I oppose the reconsideration amendment. I think this is the only real thing that we've done in terms of reducing costs. Thank you.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Senator Don Pederson.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. We had a long discussion last night about these very same issues. And I don't think we were talking in a vacuum. I think we were recognizing that we were charged with trying to reduce the size of government. And so we finally made a step towards doing that. And you would think that we had violated at least the first five amendments of the Constitution. I don't understand the attitude of the administration in connection with this. This was a very legitimate proposal that was presented, that would in effect actually cut the size of government. And to me, there will be a money saving issue down the line. But that was not the reason why I was very supportive of Senator Pedersen's amendment. This is an issue-driven thing, as far as I am concerned. For example, this year we had a deficit on medical care alone at the Correctional Facility of in excess of \$8 million. We have a proposed budget for the next two years for medical costs of \$25 million. The size of the