

February 8, 1973

SENATOR KIME: Approximately how many children under 12 years old would have to be confined in one of these institutions that you speak about?

SENATOR LUEDTKE: In our institutions, we don't have very many of them that have actually ever reached there because I think the judges are exercising some of their own prerogatives of not sending them, if they, where they have found the case to be, irreparable damage will be done to the child, however, I just want to tell you this, our municipal, our juvenile court judge here in Lancaster County told the committee on this particular bill that he had sent an eleven year old to Kearney at one time and that he was very, very sorry that he had ever done it, and it was a very bad mistake, and that he would wish to see the law at least set the age at 12, that he didn't want any authority even to send them under 12.

SPEAKER: Is there any further discussion of the bill? Senator Luedtke do you care to close on your LB 58 as amended?

SENATOR LUEDTKE: No I think it's sufficient.

SPEAKER: The question is shall LB 58 as amended be advanced from general file to E&R initial, all those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote no. We are voting on the advancement of LB 58 from general file. Have you all voted? Voting on the advancement of LB 58, the Clerk will record.

CLERK: 28 ayes, no nays, 21 not voting Mr. President.

SPEAKER: The bill is advanced. Brings up the general file debate LB 59.

CLERK: Title Read LB 59.

SPEAKER: Senator Luedtke.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: Mr. President I move that LB 59 be advanced to E&R for review. Mr. President and members of the legislature LB 59 is the third one in this series that we are discussing this morning, and deals particularly with the Nebraska Center for Children and Youths, which is a specific institution here in Lincoln, which formerly was referred to as White Hall, as some of you may know as White Hall, and this particular institution has been dealing with evaluation, the very things Senator Nore you were talking about before, where the evaluation and studying and getting a diagnosis on some of these cases, but because of the nature of the way in which this institution is operated, the law does not provide that this institution may accept children for evaluation and planning and diagnosis, from all of the Juvenile Courts in the state, in other words there hands are tied as far as handling cases out in the state unless we give them this legislation. The Director of the Nebraska Center for Children and Youths appeared before the Judiciary Committee and stated that they do have room to handle cases from out in the state, in other words the District County Judge has a case that he wants to send the child to Lincoln now, because this is the best we've got right now, send the child for this evaluation and they could do it under this law, they have restrictions right now without this law, and he is asking that it be done, it's a quite of a transition I would say until we get what is the, what is hoped for for evaluation and diagnostic center.

SPEAKER: Is there further discussion of LB 59? The question is shall LB 59 be advanced from general file to E&R initial, all those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote no. Once again the chair would ask if you have all voted? Voting on the advancement of LB 59. The Clerk will record.

CLERK: 28 ayes, no nays, 21 not voting.