

April 2, 1974

is magnificent in the area of law enforcement. I don't know that he has any specific training at all in the area of corrections.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Well, let me ask....

SENATOR FELLMAN: He is interested today in....he says he is interested today in preserving the jobs of the men he has. This bill saves the jobs of every man that works there. There's specific provision that nobody can lose his job because of this bill. Anybody that now works in the sheriff's department can transfer to the corrections department and can transfer back so you can have one free round trip without losing your job. Now the thing we're really talking about, Senator Dickinson, is the new jail facilities that going to be built. And I say to you and everybody else here that that facility is like the county hospital. And the man to run that facility should be someone with professional qualifications in a corrections facility.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Is not one elected official as apt to be qualified as another elected official to hire this administrator, that's my question, Senator Fellman.

SENATOR FELLMAN: The point here is.....

(End of Belt #4)

(Begin Belt #5)

at the present time, it all would sit under the sheriff. He could hire anyone he wants to go run that jail. Well, would this not be true if it was the other way around?

SENATOR FELLMAN: No, it would not.

SENATOR DICKINSON: The County Board could hire.....

SENATOR FELLMAN: Under this system, under this bill, the County Board would have to select someone who by statute would be professionally and educationally qualified to run a corrections facility and the entire thing would sit outside of politics under the sheriff's merit plan...and a further point....

SENATOR DICKINSON: Perhaps a better bill would have been simply to make the same provision that the sheriff would be required to hire someone meeting specific qualifications. That would have done the same job then according to your statement.

SENATOR FELLMAN: I don't really think so because the whole jail...the new corrections facility is under the county board. It would be like giving the sheriff the County Hospital. Why not amend this and give the sheriff the County Hospital to run and say because he's responsible for the health and welfare of the prisoners, he should be able to select the doctor to run the County Hospital.

SENATOR DICKINSON: I doubt if that's a good....that's all of my questions, thank you.