

March 21, 1979

LB 315

commission said, these programs are by and large less costly, often far less costly than incarceration in an institution. Evaluation has indicated that they are usually at least as effective in reducing recidivism and in some cases, significantly more so. I would move for LB 315 to advance to E & R initial.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Venditte, do you wish to be recognized on the bill?

SENATOR VENDITTE: Yes, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, a few very brief and quick questions of Senator Landis. First of all, Senator, who brought the bill to you? You said the City of Lincoln but who in particular from Lincoln brought the bill?

SENATOR LANDIS: The Mayor's office with the concurrence of the City Council.

SENATOR VENDITTE: Okay and we have been identifying these places as community centers, halfway houses, residential centers, but they are, in fact, jails, where we are going to be housing young juveniles who have violated, broken the law?

SENATOR LANDIS: They are for the purpose of incarceration as either penalty for a misdemeanor, not for a felony, or where you have the payment of a fine that cannot be paid by an indigent party.

SENATOR VENDITTE: Another question then, Senator, are there provisions within the confines of the Lincoln rules where these halfway houses would be located?

SENATOR LANDIS: There are no special provisions in our zoning ordinances that I know of.

SENATOR VENDITTE: And I say this only for the Lancaster delegation here, in Omaha we are having a great deal of concern as to where these particular halfway houses, whatever you want to call them, residential centers, community, whatever we want to call them. People don't want them next door to where they live. They don't want them in the neighborhoods. Well I can only inform the members of the Lancaster delegation, if you aren't interested as to where we might specifically want to locate these kinds of facilities, I certainly will support whatever efforts that delegation would want to make from this point on but I say that only as a matter of information, certainly not to be argumentative at this point, Senator,