

curtailed or eliminated. If we start a course of, by statute, preventing every bit of flexibility that the Legislature might have to bring about savings, I don't know where it will end. But it can get very difficult. So I do not want to oppose Senator Eret's bill, at least as a word of explanation neither can I support it, and not because I'm opposed to the retention of Geneva per se, but because I have a concern that if we start locking in everything by statute future legislatures will find it much more difficult to make those necessary adjustments that I see coming in the scope of government.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lundy, then Senator Higgins.

SENATOR LUNDY: Mr. President and members of the body, I, too, rise to bring it to the full Legislature, the full legislative body, the yellow flag that Senator Warner has flown in front of you, I do think that it is not that anyone is against Geneva or the economic reality of what might happen if that were to close in Geneva, but rather we should be conscious of the fact that it is setting a precedent, as Senator Warner indicated. I think there needs to be flexibility in government. I think it is necessary at times to look at all the options that might be available in order to receive a full report and a complete report on whether or not it is more logical, whether or not it is more economical to operate facilities together. This was the study that the Corrections Department initiated. Upon the completion of that study it was determined, by the independent study, that there could possibly be a savings of some \$411,000 to the State of Nebraska for consolidating the Youth Development Center. I think the purpose of this is just simply to bring it to the total legislative body so that they will know what they are voting on. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to speak in favor of Senator Eret's LB 709, but more important I want to speak in favor of those young women that are sent to Geneva. Mr. Chairman, could I have a little order here please.

PRESIDENT: I agree with you, Senator. I'm going to try to get some order for you. (Gavel.) Members, please keep your conversation level lower so we may hear the speaker.