

to save. But this is not the place to save it. We have a program that works extremely well at Geneva. We have a program that works well in Kearney. If we put the girls in Kearney we will have a situation where, like Marge said when she reported what the judge had said, we will be putting those students out too fast. They will come back in again. It is a proven fact. We don't quite have enough room, as it is today, in Kearney. Now there is physical room for the girls out there, but the problem is there is not room for the program to work if the girls are out there. I would suggest that, in this year of austerity, that there is a better place to cut the budget back. This is not the place. I am in favor of Senator Eret's 709.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. President and colleagues, I opposed LB 709 in committee and I will oppose it here on the floor, although I don't think, of course, my opposition is going to mean a whole lot. I'm sure it will pass with just one or two of us dissenting. But let me explain why I feel constrained to oppose this bill. You know I remember back years ago when Senator Vard Johnson had an amendment to the an appropriations bill to close down Peru State College. A lot of us felt that Peru State College was not necessary. The senators down from that part of the state came up out of their chairs and the amendment was defeated, and I remember the alarm and distress on the part of those senators who were affected. Then a couple of years later Governor Thone and his Department of Institutions decided that the Regional Center up near Norfolk really ought to be closed down because it was an inefficient use of governmental resources. Some of the senators from that area gave a very effective and a very strident opposition to the attempt to close down the Norfolk Regional Center, were successful in doing that. Now, here in 1984-1985, the Chief Executive Officer of our state, Governor Kerrey, through his Department of Institutions has concluded that the juvenile services can really be consolidated at Kearney, and that we'll have more resources to put into that institution to make it better because in Geneva, I think, we spend 600 or 800 or 900 thousand dollars a year to keep that institution going. Now I'm distressed when we, here in the Legislative Branch, every time our Chief Executive Officer attempts to effectuate economies in government, attempts to consolidate government, attempts to make it work better, immediately