

SENATOR SMITH: But that money could have been tapped to be utilized.

SENATOR MOORE: If that was the decision the department made, it's my understanding the answer to that question is yes.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, and Senator Wesely, I think, told me that part of their problem in their discussion with them was that they have a lack of staff to help utilize and to make use of the program. Okay. I have...that's another question for another day but I do have a real concern about that utilization of the waiver because we could be helping so many more people and I think saving money. And I think Senator Wesely addressed that earlier when he talked about the fact that we're putting all this money in the back end of programs rather than doing some things to try to spread the money out and help people...more people with less money in the beginning, and that's a real problem that I have and I know it's easier said than done to get to that point. Now I have to move on because I'm going to run out of time again. But I would like to have something else for the record discussed and that is on page 156, when you're talking about reaffirmations here and one of the things that I noted was the project description for the agency, which would be Corrections, deals with evidently their reaffirmations that their intent is to go ahead with the 200-man minimum security facility in Lincoln. Does that have any connection with closing the Corrections facility in Hastings?

SENATOR MOORE: Well, I guess maybe the answer to that question is no because this is something that was done last year before the subject, the issue of ever closing Hastings came up. This was the facility that the Legislature committed to last biennium, we are now in the process of construct...of constructing.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR MOORE: And (inaudible) information is that. But as far as the Hastings, that became an issue when the committee had recommended a 4 percent cut, the Department of Corrections came in and said one of the ways we plan to deal with the cut, instead of doing an across the board to all aspects of the prison system, we're going to cut one branch off and leave the rest strong. At that time, their one branch was Hastings with the thought being after a year the new facility in Lincoln would