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120TH OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE MOVES AS STATEHOUSE CLOSSES FOR RENOVATION

The House of Representatives will move out of the Statehouse where it has met continuously since 1857 joining the Senate, which has already moved to temporary quarters, while the Capitol Building undergoes a \$87.8 million facelift to return it to its original splendor.

Ron Keller, director of the Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board, said even before the House completes its move to the Ohio Departments Building at 65 S. Front St. the process of removing hazardous materials, mainly in the form of asbestos, has already started. Because the Statehouse has been subdivided over the years growing from 50 rooms to about 300 as state government expanded, Mr. Keller said this "infill" would be removed before restoring the building to its original appearance when construction was officially completed in 1861.

While meeting in the State Departments Building the House will use the large first floor hearing room for session. Mr. Keller said about nine hearing rooms and a conference room will be housed in the same building to be used for committee meetings. The House clerk's office will use space located off the north side of the Civic Center Dr. lobby. While the House will have a bill room to support legislative functions the public will still obtain copies of bills and analysis at the Legislative Service Commission bill center in the basement of the atrium that connects the Statehouse to the Senate Building.

RENO URGES COOPERATIVE EFFORTS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno Thursday said that efforts should be undertaken to forge cooperation between every level of law enforcement in the fight against crime.

While addressing about 1,300 people attending the 1993 Conference on Law Enforcement sponsored by Attorney General Lee Fisher, Ms. Reno said the state and federal governments have wasted resources developing two huge parallel prison systems that are now both overcrowded. She noted that federal facilities are filling up with mainly non-violent offenders serving minimum mandatory sentences while state prisons are releasing violent criminals. "We have to stop promising sentences we know we won't have the money to carry out," Ms. Reno said, adding that on average only 20% to 30% of each sentence is actually served.

Ms. Reno, the first woman to be named U.S. Attorney General, recommended creating a joint state-federal council made up of corrections officials, judges and others to study law enforcement efforts. As an example of duplication she said there are 34 federal agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), that are involved in drug homicides.

Investing in the lives of children at an early age could save them from a career in crime later in life, Ms. Reno said. Families and children should be put first, she said, adding that being a child today may be the hardest thing