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clarity to a situation which has been confused on both sides. You and I, together with others, have for years listened to this issue in the Judiciary Committee, and it's always been we aren't reimbursing enough; we don't have enough; we don't know what the amount is; oh me, oh my, oh, what should we do? And I was laughing back here. It says something about my present mood that, you know, it's classic government that when we run out of money, even though we've got the same number of employees and people on the payroll and everything else, we tell them, oh, don't send any more claims; we won't process the claims. We've got the people there to process them, but we haven't got any money to pay them so then we don't want to process them. So we constantly never have the information we need in order to answer the question what are the counties out, what should the state appropriate if it has it and wants to appropriate it?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, now...

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: So I think we're going to clarify all of that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now let's presume that every 1 of the 93 counties will comply, and let's say they accurately and without fudging present accurate data. And it goes to the Chairperson of the Appropriations Committee, and everything envisioned in this amendment is done and we have this data. What is to be done then?

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Then the Appropriations Committee and...followed by the full member...full body of the Legislature, will have to make a decision as to what is the appropriate rate individually and aggregately for reimbursement to the counties for holding state prisoners. I can imagine many questions that will come after we have all the data, but at least we'll be beyond those initial questions.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you think it could turn out to be such a large amount that the legislator...Legislature may say this is not something that the state ought to embark upon? These counties exist because they were created by the law to carry out functions that are given to them by the state, so let them