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LB 155

your committee has attempted to address because I believe it is important to most people that they get their number back, those of us that are reaching the age where we can't remember numbers too well especially, I guess. But I have been contacted by several of the county treasurers of the district that I represent and they have indicated that there would be an administrative problem. Could you explain to me why it is that the plates could not be manufactured so that all the numbers were available before we started distributing these plates? Is there a problem as far as time is concerned? Is that the problem?

SENATOR WARNER: The only issue involved that I am aware of as to whether all the plates could be issued to be available in one year would be a cost factor. It's going to...and whatever method, and there is other legislation dealing with that issue, but whatever method you use the cost for issuing the plates, the rule of thumb cost has been around \$2 million for reissue of plates. Now, normally we appropriate in the vicinity of 5 to 6 hundred thousand a year for the making of plates even when they are not being issued but for new plates, people who want a new different plate, whatever. There is \$270 thousand as I recall in the deficiency bill to get under way this time the original proposal and the Governor's budget would spread the balance of the cost over a two year period for issuing of the plates. Now even though we did do them all in one year that is not going to totally avoid the problem that some of the county officials are raising because there could be, number one, might well be under a staggered system not come up until December. So they are going to have to store that if you have the possibility of getting the same number back for twelve months anyway. So that is why I think the issue all by itself whether or not we are going to provide for the opportunity for someone to have...to guarantee the opportunity for someone to get their plate number back ought to be or can be handled by itself. If we disregard that possibility then it is true that you just do it numerically whatever number you happen to get when you come in unless it's available avoids a lot of these problems. All of us well know that if my neighbor comes in to get his plate and he cannot get the plate that he has had for forty years and he is going to say, why not, and you know we all know the answer will be, well, the Legislature passed the law so you can't get your same number back and that is the only issue here, you know, whether we want to take the credit or the blame for making it impossible for somebody to get their same number back