

concerned about. I don't know if Senator Lindsay is aware of it so I will ask him. Senator Lindsay, will you yield to a question?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Yes, I will.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Are you aware that they have released a number of people from the state penal facilities and are in the process of having to release more because of overcrowding?

SENATOR LINDSAY: I believe I have read that in the newspaper, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And that doesn't...you're not concerned about that and you feel it's not anything that the Legislature should be interested...Well, you don't feel it's...it should be a concern...of concern to the Legislature when we...

SENATOR LINDSAY: No, I have not said that. I have said that that is not a...I do not believe an appropriate reason to decide whether something should or should not be public policy.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is...

SENATOR LINDSAY: I agree that overcrowding should be addressed, but I don't think in terms of saying what is and what is not a crime is the proper manner to do that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Does this bill attempt to establish prostitution as a crime? No, I'll answer it, no, it doesn't. Prostitution has already been determined a crime. We're not determining a policy here with reference to whether conduct is considered illegal or not, do you agree with that?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Whether the conduct itself is illegal? And to...and I think what you are saying is, yes, it has already been determined by the Legislature that public policy of the state is that prostitution should be criminal.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right. And this bill would seek to make the punishment more harsh, isn't that correct?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Under state law, correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And included in that harsh a punishment would