

did vote for the bill. What I was wondering, can you tell me, how do counties budget for indigent care today? Do they just grab a figure in the air?

SENATOR LYNCH: Yeah, they hope that they won't have to spend probably any more than they did the year before, Frank, but they never know. If someone, as described by Senator Elmer, walks in off the street and they are indigent and they wind up with pneumonia and you can't prove a residency, and you can't prove they have any third-party payment, they are not on Medicare or Medicaid, then they are yours. If they are in your jail, they are yours, and that could wind up, if you have got a five or ten thousand dollar bill, that is something it is hard for you to budget for and you never know. So they just hope against hope that they won't have a serious health care cost problem.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: I can ask my county, but do you think they use an average of what they have spent the last few years maybe?

SENATOR LYNCH: Yeah.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: I am trying to put it in perspective to what will it do to the property tax relief, and it is not a property tax relief bill, I understand that. What I just wonder, then will they take this money and find someplace else to spend it? Will there be a possibility of some tax relief in a big county like Douglas or Lancaster?

SENATOR LYNCH: I would sure hope so but, you know, how politicians are, they always give back to the voters any kind of property tax relief money like this. You and I can't say that they actually are going to do it, and I would be completely honest and frank about it, you know that and I know that, but, in fact, what this does provide is a source of funds that the county does not now have to provide that should, in fact, recover money that maybe the county needs for some other unmet need. I am not sure, a lot of them are at their limit, their spending limit, and so I can understand. A lot of them I know have not had salary increases for years and years, so I can't tell you county by county how it will work, but I do know that this, in principle, is, in fact, a property tax relief funding proposal.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: I agree with that. I do have a lot of problems with the \$12 million, but you are going to work on