

offense and wins, then all of his or her costs will be paid. Although court costs and certain of the filing fees, the cost for the bill of exceptions, things that I have had to expend money for when I have defended myself were reimbursed to me when I won and I have won. But the kind of cases that I have won have required so much time that it would be ridiculous to hire a lawyer if you had to pay those costs yourself. What we're talking about here is when the court strikes down a statute, ordinance or ordinance as being unconstitutional. That is not happening every single day. To give the impression that it somehow is going to have an impact on the state's overall budget or the ability of the state to function is to bring before us that red herring. And I think Senator Bernard-Stevens remarks ought to be just put out of our minds as far as the fact that should bear on how we decide this matter. I'm one of those who constantly votes against harsh punishments. We had a bill that the Legislature passed that had to do with illegally obtaining signatures on petitions and other things, and I was the only legislator who voted against it, I was the only one who voted against it. Then when some of our colleagues ran afoul of it, even though they voted for it, they wanted to challenge the constitutionality of it. So what we need to consider sometimes is that the net that we spread for others could wind up in snaring us, our friends, our family members, and we ought to do that which is just. If I would consider it just, were one of these bills that I voted into law to be turned against me, and I analyze it through my attorney and it's found to be unconstitutional, I would want to have some redress, even though people might say I got what I deserved because I shouldn't have voted for it. But that's not what we say when the wolf sits on our door howling, or on the doorstep of somebody we care about. Maybe I could find something that would mean as much to me as that railroad that Senator Wickersham wants the state to buy. And I would push just as hard for that as he's pushing for his railroad. So when something comes close to us, the closer it comes, the more sympathetic we are to that situation. We pay more attention to it, we study it better. We see mitigating circumstances or, as it might be, aggravating circumstances that will weigh on our decision. If it seems very far-removed and abstract, then we can take an abstract position and say, well, it makes no difference whether we vote it up or down. But I look at these things from the standpoint of how they actually affect people. Even if I don't know the individuals to be affected, even if I don't like them, we are enacting legislation, supposedly, based on what constitutes sound public