

area who understand how good time works and feel that is the hammer that they have to keep the population in control. If you don't have that, there is absolutely nothing that you can do to protect the employees of those institutions. Short of committing a crime within the walls, you are going to wreak havoc on the population and on the employees of the state. I mean I believe that the good time measure that we're looking at here makes a lot of sense. We keep talking about how we want to increase the penalties. We want to lock people away and throw away the key. When it comes time to raise the taxes in order to do that, those same folks are silent at the microphone. I don't hear the same rousing applause for those kinds of measures that means millions of dollars have to be spent, not just to build those facilities, but also to fill them with employees. There is an ongoing expense that goes along with that. You increase the crimes as we did in the eighties, seventies and eighties, and the population goes up. And that is why we have come back with a good time proposal is because frankly, we can't house everybody that gets sent there, not for the periods of time that we have increased penalties to include. I think that you have to look at it in the entirety, not just from the point of saying well we want these individuals to serve the sentences that they were given. You have to look at the whole package when you do that. I believe that the proposal that Senator Lindsay brings just brings us into conformity with what happens at the correctional facilities and I think that it...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...makes good sense in terms of keeping our costs at the local level to a minimum. You got to remember that these are paid for with property tax dollars when you're talking about these individuals. All we hear about in addition to crime being the number one problem is taxes, in particular property taxes at the local level, being the number two problem. You can't do both, ladies and gentlemen, you can't have it both ways. In this case Senator Lindsay's proposal is a modest one at best. Think about it before you just "knee-jerkly" push the red button. It is a very appropriate proposal to coordinate the penalties and also keep our population under control. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Witek, on LB 234.