

response was that the people had spoken. And there was really nothing more than that. It was a wonderful line that basically, I guess, grabs headlines and makes for good press and looks good on campaign fliers, but there was no real substance to what was being said, and there wasn't an understanding of what the bill actually did. But she did come and testify, along with Mr. McMurray, who's testified on about 75 percent of the bills that have been introduced in the Judiciary Committee this year, in opposition to virtually all of them, I think. The real issue here is not one of is this a DWI issue. Senator Pirsch made the statement that many or most of these folks in county jail are DWI offenders. And I guess I would ask Senator Pirsch where that information comes from, because I believe that's totally inaccurate. The issue is one of how do you handle the population at the local level and how do you help control the costs. This is clearly an issue that deals directly with property taxes. And Senator Witek talks about how I don't hear people saying that they want to reduce...they're willing to pay, rather, to keep people in prison, or to keep people in jail. And I would argue that that, in fact, is not the case, that that is not true. And I think...I would yield the balance of my time to Senator Hillman, who has a perfect example of how that just doesn't happen. When pushed to vote on whether or not they want to spend more money, that is not the case. Madam President, I'd yield the balance of my time to Senator Hillman.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Hillman.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Madam Speaker, members, thank you, Senator Hall. I just wanted to point out that when we go door-to-door and we're talking to people in general and the conversation about, what are your priorities, yes, my money, I would spend it if it could go for health care, or, yes, I would spend it if I knew it would go for prisons. We had a bond issue in Scotts Bluff County in the last election. And we have a sheriff out there who I've worked with, talked with, he has tried many ways, plans, working with the state, community-based corrections, something to allow some facilities in Scotts Bluff County that would handle the overcrowding that they're addressing. So in desperation they put out a bond issue and said we need a jail, we need one desperately, I need some help. In favor of the initiative was 1,531; opposed to building a new facility in Scotts Bluff County were 7,927 people. It was "resoundly" defeated, the people said, very openly at a time when they could really voice their opinion, we will not pay for a new jail, we