

not just pick out good time. House arrest is what is being used to keep us under the overcrowding problem and house arrest is being used extensively and it's a good program for some people. Talked to the Crime Commission, counties which are at or near capacity, there aren't any right now that I'm aware of that are over...well, I think it's maybe one or two, but Douglas County, these are ones that are at or near capacity, Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy, Hall, Buffalo, Scotts Bluff, Dakota, Dodge, Madison, Adams and Platte. We were told that Dawson would have been but they just built a jail, which of course is an alternative, don't get me wrong. Building jails is something that we can do, but then if I remember right there were, what, 30 some proposals to reduce property taxes? It isn't going to happen. This bill, this bill will not result in property taxes going down dramatically, but the failure to look at each item as we go along is a type of thing that builds up. When we talk about the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back, there was a lot of straw on there in the first place. We can talk about limiting levies here and there, but unless we take a broader vision of what we're doing to counties and what we're allowing counties, we're simply being, not being I think completely honest with the people. Another senator mentioned to me that in another county, handed me a copy of a jail article...or an article from a newspaper, talks about another way of handling a problem is not with good time, plea bargaining. Let's move it from third offense to second offense, they ain't going to do so much time. If we don't have the room in our jails, lets just start charging them with something else. Remember, county attorneys also have to work under, with the county board. And a county board, those of you who have served on county boards, may know that you talk to other county officials and say, hey, we've got a huge part of our budget tied up in corrections. What can we do about this? That's another way to do it. The fact is we have a limited number of beds, the question is, who do you want in them? Would you rather see somebody doing time in there that needs to do, at least do some time? Or would you rather see that person kicked out on a house arrest or that person kicked out on a bargaining it down to no jail time? Or, and that's to make room to get that extra, squeeze that extra two months out of someone. Bottom line is, if we forget about all of that and get down to what the bill does, what it does is it says we're going to be consistent with the state and the county. The state is six months for six months, this is going to be seven days for seven days. Bottom line is that we won't have those situations which occur on a daily basis where you have someone charged, convicted