

statistical information, records and reports which the commission determines are relevant to its function. Let's see, 12, it says, transfer monthly to the commission a report of the operations. Fourteen, exercise all powers, perform all duties necessary to carry out the responsibilities as established by the commission. How...two things, one is, first of all, I do appreciate the fact that standards have been stripped out because I think if this is something that we could do on the floor, if we're going to set this policy and amend this proposal on the floor, which is the way we're going to have to deal with it, that's a big first step, and so I appreciate that. But I also look at the proposal and I read that we are mandating these obligations by the commission and by the chief counsel. So in other words, we're saying that these responsibilities, this job description shall be done. We're appropriating half a million dollars and we're saying that they have to do these various items, none of which relate to the direct service to the counties of indigent defense. And I can see where that half a million dollars can be swallowed up...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...without ever one individual walking into a courtroom and assisting in a defense case. I also look at this...these two sections and where they say "shall" I would argue that there's very likely that those...that that commission could come back and argue that...either for a deficit appropriation or file a claim against the state based on services that they were required, by this Legislature, to perform that have gone unfunded because they've exceeded the half million dollar appropriation. And if you could respond on your time to some of those issues, because I look at us, although we're moving in the right direction,...

SENATOR CROSBY: Time.

SENATOR HALL: ...we're putting together a laundry list of things that have nothing to do with the direct support for counties of indigent defense.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Vrtiska, on the Kristensen amendment.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Madam President and, members of the body. I rise in support of the Kristensen amendment. I think