

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. So if the state either takes it over or gives additional state aid, the state is going to be out of that money. And from what sources can the state derive money, forgetting about fees and those other little, you know, side sorts of revenue.

SENATOR WARNER: Basically you're talking about sales or income tax.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Sales and income tax. So if we obligate the state to spend \$69 million on a prison and there comes a property tax lid at the...on the political subdivisions, the state is going to take a double hit, and that's my term, based on this large obligation for the \$69 million, plus having to give additional aid back to the political subdivisions or actually taking over services that they perform. Would that be correct, even if you don't use the term "double hit"?

SENATOR WARNER: No, that policy issue would be before the Legislature, yes. They could choose not to do it, you understand.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: For sure. Thank you. But I know what the Legislature will do in trying to cheese up to their little locales and their county boards, because they want to be back in the Legislature, and they don't realize that when you're in the state Legislature, your obligation is to look after the interests of the state, make sure that the state has the resources necessary to discharge the state's responsibilities. And this idea of saying that because we're in a temporary political hot spot where everybody seems to be saying build more prisons, lock up more people for longer periods of time, we're going to throw fiscal responsibility out the window...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and begin to take on these obligations under political pressure which the state cannot discharge. Then when it becomes necessary, absolutely necessary to raise the sales tax and the income tax, the politicians are going to scurry and point fingers to lay blame on somebody else for the necessity of raising taxes. So I'm going to try to use every argument I can. But right now I'll appeal to your stinginess.