

legislation we have to be willing to put our money where our mouth is, and that means we have to vote for the additional money, we have to look and cut somebody's program, or increase somebody's taxes, or do something to pay for the \$60 million it's going to take to build an additional prison. Where I think some of the others and I would diverge is that building a prison is going to take care of the increase in prison population that we'll expect before that prison is completed. Before that prison is even completed we will have filled it, just in the increase. And so all it will do is get us back to today's overcrowding problem. I think if we're going to actually address this problem, if we do intend to build our way out of this problem, I suspect that we need probably two prisons right now. By building an additional 100 modular units or an additional unit for 100 beds, we alleviate some of that, and we at least have somewhere to put the space. I think Senator Pedersen earlier mentioned something that is pretty telling, by the time we build the 300 units, if this amendment is adopted on the modular housing, by the time they get completed, and now judging from this 7 weeks, we will have filled them again with the increase. The increase alone will have filled those beds. So we will still, even after this modular housing takes over, in a short time frame, we're still going to have...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR LINDSAY: ...the problem. There is a part of me that says we ought to go with what Senator Maurstad has said, and that is forget the modular housing, build a prison right now. But I don't think that's the entirely responsible way to go. I think we should be doing what Senator Maurstad says, build the prison and do the modular housing, and we'll still have a prison population problem. The bottom line is Senator Chambers wants to force a crisis and say don't build this because we need this in federal court where at least they can sensibly run our correction system. I think my position is I agree with Senator Chambers on the underlying...on criminal policy, criminal justice policy, but my thought is if we're going to do it, we have a responsibility to fund it. And that responsibility is build the modular units, build the prison, and get ready to build an additional prison.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Lindsay. Senator Maurstad.