

consultants probably were engineers to talk about how they were going to build a bridge. I'm in the process now of trying to define out from all of the consultants who have been hired over the past year or so how many of those were, in fact, consultants that dealt with data processing. What concerned me, I think concerned others on the Appropriations Committee as well, was I don't think we ought to hire any consultants who, in the past, worked with this, especially in the very near past and who, in fact, didn't see...couldn't define or even divine, I guess is the right word, of what the problem could be and how serious it would be in the year 2000. I don't think we saved a lot of money having data processing. I think we moved in from racing around faster but I don't think we saved a lot of money. I don't see a lot of people getting laid off or fired because of technology. I don't see a lot of efficiencies developing as a result of this kind of technology and that's unfortunate. Maybe somebody can define that...

SENATOR WILL: One minute.

SENATOR LYNCH: ..for me, but on the other hand it, because of that, I...and because of the 309 responsibility I'm in a terrible quandary. But, to be completely frank, I'm not in a position now on General File to say, no, let's not do anything at all and I hope the members of the 309 Committee would forgive me and understand. I do intend to support this moving on General File. I hope by Select we're going to have a lot more information. I don't...can't imagine having to spend 30 million dollars to get advice from people to fix the system we have now when they were, in fact, the ones that helped put the system in place. I would think somebody would have known in the year 1990 or maybe even year 1980 that we've got something coming up in the year 2000. Maybe they just kept their mouth shut because they knew how wonderful it would be from a consulting point of view...

SENATOR WILL: Time.

SENATOR LYNCH: ..with this kind of a problem. I have my light up again somewhere along the line so I'll come back and finish this statement then.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Lynch. Senator Cudaback.