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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 46

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I guess all I'm suggesting is that the word "may" as opposed to "shall" bothers me. And perhaps we should give some thought to taking the Governor out of it completely, so that they can say, well, it's not my choice, the Legislature took it out of my hands. Or say "shall". Because if you give them the discretion, then I truly believe that it would take a person...a governor with a lot of confidence in himself or herself to open up and invite the process of flooding the countryside with additional parolees. (Laugh)

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Now, Senator Beutler, you're engaging in the kind of hyperbole...

SENATOR BEUTLER: (Laugh) I'm...

SENATOR BRASHEAR: ...that gets the...

SENATOR BEUTLER: I'm giving you...

SENATOR BRASHEAR: ...discussion in trouble.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yeah, but I'm giving you the hyperbole that will be what will happen. Republican or Democrat, I'm not...this is not (laugh) a Republican or Democrat thing. This is a governor thing.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: And what we're trying to present here is a well ordered, disciplined, reasonable process that the taxpayers can have confidence in. And we're showing them the economic taxpayer cost consequence of not having that kind of a process, and then making people accountable for making it work for and on behalf of the people.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. The director is the one who certifies as to the reaching of the threshold. And the Governor doesn't have to do anything till the director certifies. Would you have any objection to maybe at least saying when the director certifies, so that if you're going to have the Governor involved, at least we know when the ball is in his court, or her court?