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LB 46

establish the programs. There is an A bill which follows after that appropriates the money. Am I being responsive?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, I'm just wondering. It's going to take some time to establish the programs and to start...put them in place and to actually be spending the money. And I'm just wondering if we're not collecting an awful lot of money, like I say, \$3 million, when practically speaking it would not be reasonably spent for maybe a year from now. I was just wondering what kind of time line you foresee in this scenario.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: We're...all of that was considered, I don't mean satisfactory to you, but what I'm saying is we've talked about it. The council is going to proceed as expeditiously as possible to establish something that we're literally years and years and years behind. We've never spent...when we say \$3 million, these times and any times, when we say \$3 million, yes, that's an awful lot of money. By the same token, when you've spent \$500,000 up till now and have the adverse consequence that we have of incarcerating, we have to go out and establish these programs, contract with these private providers, and get these people into the treatment. So all of that has to happen before the Legislature can next convene and...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, my...to get...

SENATOR BRASHEAR: ...apply its...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: To get to the nub of the issue, what would happen if we would take a million dollars and put it into General Funds between now and the 1st of January? What would be the result of an action like that?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Senator Wehrbein, I'm not going to stand here and pretend that I know. I'm...I don't have that kind of expertise. I can't tell you what would happen. I also can't...I can't tell you that it would be wrong and I can't tell you it would be right. I can tell you that I would pursue trying to get an answer to that question, and I would counsel with you or any others in that regard. I don't have a crystal ball.