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FLOOR DEBATE

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118 percent. And then I'll go into the caseloads which I'll...I got to digest that a little bit. But...oh, and Lancaster County caseload has risen from 44,520 per year in 1984 to 59,234 cases in 2002. The other side we were interested in was the probations, and if we were to make LB 46 work, that's the community corrections, they were going to have to cut probation officers in that particular system. If we are...if we would take this cut, I assume with...I neglected I think...is this a half percent...I can't remember. It says a half percent or one percent cut. Is this a half percent, Senator Redfield? May I ask Senator Redfield?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Redfield, would you respond to a question from Senator Wehrbein?

SENATOR REDFIELD: Yes.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: It's easier than me looking. What was the cut here that you took, a half percent or one?

SENATOR REDFIELD: I believe it was a half percent.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Half percent. Thank you. We felt...and I'll get some more numbers together here so I don't rattle on and on. I want to hit the high points. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Further discussion on...Senator Wehrbein, your light is next.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, it doesn't give me much time to prepare. We're...statewide, we're 20 employees of the needed amount. Remember, we've added interpreters to the court caseload. We've added sign language to the caseload. They are short interpreter services. That alone has gone from \$442,000 to \$580,000 in the last three years. That's a \$140,000 increase just in the last four years for interpreter services, which they are under mandate to do at this point, if you know. We've had an increase in salaries and benefits to the court systems, but we still rank 29th nationally in salaries. The Governor's budget proposal, which is almost the same, would approximate nine probation officers and four support staff would go,