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for inmate when actual costs are about \$68. For Sarpy County, the difference might run about \$50,000, which isn't a great deal of money. But what it does is the state is raising my property tax, and that just isn't right. If you're not going to fund this, then change the law that says we're never going to do this again. But as long as the law is there, let's honor it and don't make any pretense about raising my property tax or saying you haven't raised taxes when indeed you have because you raised my property tax. Thank you very much.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Kopplin. Senator Chambers, your light is next.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, members of the Legislature, Senator Bourne was trained in the law, I was trained in the law. We have a difference of opinion on this subject. I do not think that a lawsuit exists on behalf of the counties with reference to what is being discussed here. You would have to establish that a debt was created which the state is obliged by law to pay. The nuclear, the low-level nuclear waste settlement grew out of a lawsuit where a court could impose a responsibility on the state to pay. And if the state refused to pay, the court could authorize levying against property of the state if the Legislature refused to appropriate the money. But no court is going to say that Sarpy County can levy on state property to make them pay this money for these inmates. A county is not going to file a suit against the state for something like this. I have said repeatedly that words should not be put in the statute when the only intent is to try to put pressure on the state to compel a future Legislature to do something that a previous Legislature tried to bind it to do. And sometimes, even this session, language would be eliminated which would say the state is going to provide so much and so much money for a certain program when the only time money is made available is by way of appropriation. No money is appropriated through one of these bills that we pass. So putting the intent in one of those pieces of legislation to provide a certain amount of money is just words on paper. That's all. Under the system, that is not how money is appropriated. And when money is appropriated, there must be an identified fund or source from which that money is coming, and the appropriation has to be made in accord with