

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 5, 2005

LB 425

priorities. He selected a priority. And now when you make your bed, Senator Stuthman, you got to lie in it. Well, actually you don't have to, but if you're going to lie down somewhere, you have to lie down in the bed that you made. Senator Stuthman knows that this amendment is not going to be adopted. We all know it's not going to be adopted. The attempt was made...well, we have some people who are a little thick who don't know that. But I'm not going to call any names and, therefore, I will bear no blame, but he was born by a river in a little tent. (Laughter) In this set of circumstances, when we get late into the evening on the budget bill, there are some matters that may have a chance of being accepted. I have always been opposed to reimbursing the counties in this set of circumstances. Counties have come to the state to try to find any and every way possible to get money from the state so that they don't have to discharge the duties and the powers that they have bestowed upon them. This is a part of another situation where the counties don't want to pay for medical care for the inmates who are there because the county's officials put them there. There is a price that is paid when you deprive people of their freedom. So when you convict people and you can't get them to the penitentiary right away, then you got to pay. It's as simple as that and the counties know it. Not one of them has been harmed because of the way things are done by the state. As Senator Combs was reading off these requests that the counties made and how little they got, it just seemed that they weren't getting the message until it finally reached the point where they got nothing. Then they said, oh, I think I see something. I'd like to ask Senator Stuthman a question, though.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Stuthman, would you yield?

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Yes, I would be glad to.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Stuthman, is this the first time that you've tried to do something to get this reimbursement funded?

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And why did you choose this time? Was it brought to your attention by a county or the county association