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LB 425

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Was that an echo? No, but I didn't mean it, if it was.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Stuthman,...

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the...

SENATOR CUDABACK: ...you're recognized to open.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: This is a bill that...this is an amendment that I proposed the other night when a lot of them were not in the Chamber at that time. What it does is it refers to the jail reimbursement. This bill was originally put into statute in the session of 1998. April 9 is when it was done. And I'm going to read you just a little bit of what it was at that time, and that was in the bill. After sentencing, if a prisoner is a state prisoner, the state shall reimburse the county where the state prisoner was or is maintained in a criminal detention facility at the rate of \$35 per day for each day that the state prisoner was maintained in the criminal detention facility for such offense until the day the state prisoner is transferred to a Department of Correctional Service adult correctional facility, or placed on probation for such offense. The county board of the county or a county board of corrections shall request reimbursement as provided in Section 47-121. If the Department of Correction Services has been notified under the Section 83-4,133 that the criminal detention facility which has requested reimbursement does not qualify for reimbursement request for the days the facility that is not qualified. In plain language, that bill was to give the counties some money for the days that the prisoner, when it was a state prisoner was supposed to be in a state correction facility. They were to reimburse them for \$35 a day, which was not the total cost of maintaining a prisoner, but it did help for the counties. I think in a couple years later...well, what had originally taken place was that I think there was \$5 million, \$5.5 million set aside for that, but there's wasn't near the request for that amount of money. And I think what happened was a lot of the counties did not realize, you know, how the process was going,