

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

May 11, 2005

LB 425

SENATOR ENGEL PRESIDING

SENATOR ENGEL: Thank you, Senator Hudkins. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Stuthman, you're recognized.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. First of all, I want to clarify just a little bit exactly what I'm really asking for. Comes to \$408,595 a year, or for our budget package \$816,190 in the possibility of getting reimbursed for counties. You know, it goes up to that amount and it's to that amount that would be, you know, what is in the law right now, in the statute, to be reimbursed up to that amount. Hopefully we wouldn't have to reimburse that much. That would be the best thing that could happen. But it can go up to that amount. In the budget request, it was only that much less, so I think we should be obligated, of which we are obligated, to reimburse for our state prisoners. So I think we need to be realistic, put that total amount into that so that if there are requests up to that amount of dollars, that they get reimbursed. I don't think it's totally all fair, but I have not got a solution of how to make it any more fair. Some counties that have claims the first two quarters get reimbursed; counties that have claims the last two quarters may not be reimbursed, and that's really a tough situation to try to address and try to make it fair. But I don't have a solution for that yet. But all I'm asking is that, you know, if we could go up to the amount that is not to be exceeded. So with that, I'm listening to the discussion, I hope that we can work with this. I hope that the Appropriations, you know, and I've gotten good support from the Chair of the Appropriations and I really respect that. But at the present time I would like to give a little bit of my time to Senator Cudaback, if he would like to have some time.

SENATOR ENGEL: Senator Cudaback, do you yield?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuthman. I won't take a lot of time here, but I hope this goes easier than the first time we got this passed. LB 695 the bill was, and we did it out of fairness. Senator Pederson was a great help as long as...as well as many other members, and I thank Senator Stuthman for