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FLOOR DEBATE

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months after we opened the door, we had 132 inmates. We were full. So it is generating income for us. The thing that concerns me with this...and I'm...I have to get more information before I can totally support it, but yet I might be in support of it. When you're going to the regional concept of it, would there be anything that the board could have a regional jail? These other counties would be in support of it? They'd be part of the bond payment of it and then you could own it yourself and make the payments on the bond to satisfy the bond. The thing that also concerns me is that, you know, if these other counties, it's a regional jail, maybe they're just going to utilize the facility, and it states in here that it's going to be, you know, after the service debt is taken care of, the title would be back. Hall County would own the jail after a number of years. Is this correct?

SENATOR AGUILAR: Okay. I did have some more information on that come to light and if we were to go into a contract with a company like that, Hall County would indeed own the facility, and the liability part of it would be transferred to the...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR AGUILAR: ...private company, as they would have to take out a liability insurance program, too, and then they would eventually be responsible for that. I know that's not in the bill. Senator Chambers pointed that out to me that's not in the bill as we speak, but that is the way we would form our contract.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Okay. But it would just be Hall County then. It wouldn't be the counties of the region. The region portion of it would be for inmates to come in from your region (inaudible).

SENATOR AGUILAR: It would be for overflow from other counties, you know, and that's happening now. We get a lot of prisoners from other counties.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: And you would be leasing that space to other counties, or they were paying on a per-head basis.