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FLOOR DEBATE

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of incarceration, and it's my impression that this move towards more community corrections activities will have benefit for local county jails. It will target those individuals that are currently in a county jail setting, and that the long-term public policy interests as stated by this Legislature last session, again in LB 46, is that we are working on, we are continuing to work on long-term resolution to these problems in terms of correctional cost. The last thing I think we need to do is to divert the motivations of counties with private management. You know, infusing that into this situation is going to cause a lot of concern, particularly, again, in my position on the Community Corrections Council. Senator Aguilar, I would more than welcome you to have the rest of my time, should you prefer to have it. Thank you, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Aguilar, about a minute and 50 seconds have elapsed.

SENATOR AGUILAR: Thank you, Senator Synowiecki. First of all, let me say that I definitely agree with a lot of what you said. The part that I don't agree is we're not building this jail to take in all of other counties' prisoners. That is not the point. It's not the regional part of it. What I did say was when another jail has an overflow, which happens many, many times now, not to mention INS prisoners that come through, federal marshal prisoners that come through, they use Grand Island as a facility because of its size. What we want to do is be able to be big enough to handle those overflows. We're not going to go recruit from other areas. And again, like I said, Grand Island is more of a believer in community corrections than most of these in that we have our own drug courts, for instance. We do think like that, community corrections, and that's the goal we want. Our goal is not to...you also mentioned something about, you know, the private prison would want to keep the jail full. They have no say-so of who goes in that jail or who is released from the jail. That's all up to the community. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Aguilar. Senator Smith, on the Chambers motion to indefinitely postpone.