

February 7, 1980

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be struck between the sheriff and the county board whereby the county board would pay actual cost or actual expenses of feeding and boarding prisoners. Actual costs are currently now paid by cities to the sheriff for boarding city prisoners. That would include food, laundry and essentials such as that. It would not include utilities and the other expenses that go with maintaining a jail whether anybody is there or not. Now in 1983 when the salary schedule goes into effect, the sheriff will be out of the boarding and feeding of prisoners altogether. He will not be given that fee for the feeding of the prisoners. If there is some question that anybody would have relative to any aspect of the bill, I hope that you will ask it and it may not take the full forty-five minutes, because if the sheriffs have done their job, you know how we like to on my bills keep everything out in the open, they will have contacted you and explained why the bill is needed. Now that I have dealt with what I feel are the technical aspects of the bill, I would like to give a brief rationale of why the bill separates law enforcement from the other county officials. If you read the statutory duties imposed on the sheriff, I don't think you can find another office where so many things are required of an individual and the law enforcement job of the sheriff is different from that of the state patrol, the local police or any other type of law enforcement official because it includes policing the county, running the jail, except in Douglas and Lancaster County where they have a Department of Corrections, and being an officer of the court where you have to serve summonses and other things. Then when you get to reading that thousand and one other little piddling things that the sheriff has to do, a distinction has been drawn between what he or she must do and the other county officials. Because law enforcement is such an important function and because the state has regulated law enforcement like it has not regulated other elective positions, there is an obligation to give an adequate compensation for the type of work we are requiring these people to do, and at this point, I would like to mention the final aspect of the bill. After election, a sheriff is given a certain amount of time during which to go and take training in law enforcement principles and for every month that that sheriff does not take this training the punishment built into the law is forfeiture of a month's salary which would mean that a sheriff in effect would be serving for nothing. So the incentive to take the training is there. If there are very exigent circumstances which would mitigate against the sheriff taking that training, the law allows those conditions to be brought out and the sheriff could be exempted for a

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