

saying, well, we are faced with a court order, being called back into special session by the Governor, forcing us to construct prison facilities in the form of a maximum or a medium or basically as is policy towards correctional facilities, I think we should look forward and realize that this is going to be a problem in the future, that 27 other states have adopted a program that has been successful, and realize that this is a program of the future. Now, depending I guess on which figures you cite from, the figures that I have from the National Journal for Corrections Professionals, similar to the...they included in that particular handout, the table, that showed how facilities are operating, they also included a section stating of the states that have these programs, how many have been successful. Now, for example, in the State of Alabama, number who have completed the program, and they state 547, success rate 83 percent; Alaska, no program; Arizona, success rate 86 percent; Florida, on the other hand, had number who had completed program 429, success rate 47.6 percent. Now this is an interesting statistic next to the State of Georgia, in this particular study, they state out of 4,180 who have completed the program, and Georgia is the oldest state that has had this type of program, they were the pioneering state in this type of program, they listed 97 percent success rate. Idaho, who has had the program since 1970, they state they have an 80 percent success rate; Illinois, 77 percent. Anyway, it goes on and some of the states aren't quite as...Louisiana has a 56 percent, Michigan 59, Mississippi 91, New York 68, North Carolina 80; anyway, they have gone through and tried to examine whether these have been successful. They also compare the cost of these shock programs or boot camp programs...

SENATOR HALL: One minute.

SENATOR ABBOD: ...compared to existing cost if they were sent to original prison. I think the Legislature, instead of reacting to a problem that we are going to have in the future, is looking ahead, and that's why I am open to suggestions from Senator Ashford, that we look to community corrections programs that have been successful in other states. It would have been my druthers, I guess, when the bill was introduced, to leave a great deal of discretion to the Department of Corrections because they are the experts in this area. If the Legislature doesn't feel comfortable doing that, they want to write specific language in as to how this program should be actually implemented, I can support that as well. My perspective is we