

SENATOR VENDITTE: I'm sorry I still at this point in time cannot support the criminal code, LB 38 and I will show that by voting no.

SENATOR BARNETT: Can you say why?

SENATOR VENDITTE: Senator Barnett, I guess it's very simply this. I've been in this body for some 60 some days and you are asking me to support this...I'm sorry Senator, I can't do that. It is not in the best interest of the people I represent. I still contend that if I'm going to sell this to the people of my district, I need more time than 60 days. For the other 25% of the members of this Unicameral who are as new as I am, I would think that you would have to concur. We can't vote on such voluminous amount of information within the short amount of time that we have had. I am sure that there is 75% of this body who still does not clearly understand the intent of LB 38. I don't. I've studied it in committee and the majority of you people are not members of the committee. Again, I don't know who is asking for this. The judges haven't asked for it. The people haven't asked for it. The county judges haven't asked for it. I'm still confused and I remain confused. I will not support LB 38.

PRESIDENT: Senator Simon.

SENATOR SIMON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Senator Venditte, let me lightly chastise you as one of the new members on...came down the same time you did. I think that I basically understand the criminal code. I certainly don't understand it to the extent that Senator DeCamp does but I have attended that infamous group known as the ad hoc committee for which I've been chastised myself in the paper. I've made, taken considerable amount of time to attend those meetings. I've taken the time to study this on the weekends at home and I would strongly disagree with you by making the comment that there was no public clamoring. Senator Venditte, you have an obligation to the constituents in your district, to the people in the state of Nebraska, as does everybody else here on the floor and just because there is not a public clamoring does not mean that something isn't necessary. I think if you have listened to the discussion on this bill, you've seen that many of these provisions are outdated, needed to be changed, and have done so. To sit back and do nothing, I would suggest would be negligence on your part or anybody else here by taking the attitude, I don't understand it. I need more time, therefore, I'm not going to vote. I came down here the same time you did, Senator Venditte. I think I understand the bill well enough to support it. I have some concerns as you do on different sections for exactly the opposite reasons but I will support the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Luedtke.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Again I'm going to say to Senator Venditte that I do not understand the attitude of a person who is elected to this Legislature who has had this much exposure, more than anyone in my memory and he has been here every day that I can recall. If he has not absorbed some of this and I'm sorry to get personal about it, but if anyone has not absorbed something out of the tremendous amount of debate we've had on this, I just can't understand it. Senator Venditte has said before