

a reasonable doubt, innocent persons have been convicted and sentenced. What you are doing now is making it even easier for that type of thing to occur and I don't believe that this dealing with the insanity issue will be the last law or the last bill to come before the Legislature which is designed to take away certain rights of people accused of crimes. If every citizen in this state were handled as gently and as carefully as the accused Attorney General, then I would not have any problem with this. But it is different strokes for different folks. Everybody wants to be so careful that they do not offend this man whose own conduct got him in trouble, who has allowed weeks and months to go by with a cloud hanging over his head and the Legislature sits afraid to discuss the issue because the Legislature wants to be fair to the most powerful Republican politician in this state, but when we come to those who have not a prayer, then we say, change the law and make it easier to lock them up. It is so difficult for me on these issues because I can't deal with one of these items in a vacuum. I put it in the context of what happens in other instances where the same people voting here this morning are dealing with these other issues and dealing with them in a different fashion. Senator Schmit has offered a good motion...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and I support it.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Vard Johnson. May we have (gavel) order in the Chamber please.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I rise in support of Senator Schmit's motion. I think that a portion of the debate so far has indicated that if this change is made to the insanity defense, the line will be drawn, there will be no more changes to the insanity defense. I am very skeptical of that. I have been here six years and the six years that I have been here we haven't decriminalized anything. Instead what we have done is we have enhanced penalties. Just passed a sexual assault bill that enhanced penalties. What we have done is we have made new crimes out of formerly noncriminal acts, such as, we