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something about litter, I don't see that it makes sense to start right out by putting the opposite message out by changing the sanctions in this particular bill.

SENATOR HIGGINS: In other words, you wouldn't want to lower the penalty?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: My amendment prevents the lowering of the penalty, that's right.

SENATOR HIGGINS: What did you want to lower it to, Senator? Or you just want to keep it at a maximum of \$500?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Well, right now the law is that littering is a Class IV misdemeanor which carries \$100 to \$500 in fine, depending on what the judge feels is appropriate. Senator DeCamp wants to change it to a Class V misdemeanor which is zero to \$100, and my amendment would strike that proposed change by Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR HIGGINS: My only comment would be, being able to go from \$100 to \$500 is a pretty stiff fine for littering. I think it would be a hardship on not just poor people but even middle income people if they got a hanging judge, and said, boy, I'm going to teach you a lesson, 300 bucks because you threw a cigarette out the window or a hamburger wrapper. Thank you, Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I think the bill as Senator DeCamp had it drafted, at least on page 4, line 2, is all right. We have...the members of the Judiciary Committee, have seen case after case come before the committee where people who have specific interests are trying to heap penalty on top of penalty and a harshness develops which prevents prosecutors from even filing charges because the penalty is so out of line with the offense. So I think Senator Hoagland's amendment ought to be defeated. He has not offered any attempt to demonstrate the need for a stiff penalty. What I think the intent of the law is is to cut down on the littering. If you have a penalty that is never brought to bear, you have a non-effective law, if the only thing about the law that brings any compliance is the penalty. So I think a Class IV misdemeanor is too steep, Class V probably is. And I would like to ask Senator Hoagland a question or