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LB 809

a bad bill. The intent is to lock people's children up and were it the child of any of us we wouldn't want them to spend the 24 hours. But here is the main point that I will get across to those of you who are law and order. Chief Justice Krivosha has pointed out that the idea of mandatory sentences is not going to work because you are not increasing the jail facilities in which to lock these people up. You simply transfer the problem from the churches, the schools, the family or wherever the problem arises and put it on the corrections people. That is not fair. It is not proper for them. But more importantly, I don't think it is proper to do this to the young people. They are following the example that older people give to them in practically everything they do. If they use the false identification, it is to have access to those things that grown people have shown them are all right, even the people who go to church, those who sit on the legislative floor, even, for example, when we talk about bills to impose mandatory sentences on drunk drivers....

SPEAKER MARVEL: Fifteen seconds.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...there will often be drinking while that particular discussion is under way. So if you want the prosecutor to be in a position of bringing no charge at all, then I think you should pass this bill. Otherwise, leave it as it is and let them put the child on probation. The idea is not simply to lock somebody up but to try to teach the lesson that what they did should not be done. If I were a prosecutor, I would not prosecute anybody under this bill. I am not a prosecutor but I know there are some who feel the same way that I do. I am opposed to the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Time is up. Senator Hefner, your light is on, for what.....?

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would just like to talk briefly about this bill. I support it. The Miscellaneous Subjects Committee held a hearing on it and during this hearing the people that testified proved that there was a need for this bill, and I commend Senator Stoney for bringing it forth. What this bill does, it provides a minimum penalty for any person using an altered ID in purchasing liquor, and at the present time there is a lot of this going on. And, Senator Chambers, it isn't mandatory that they provide a 24-hour imprisonment. It says, or 24-hour imprisonment, or \$100 fine, or both. And so the judge does have a variation there. And, of course, we all know that we do have a maximum penalty right now, and that is a Class III misdemeanor. And so I