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LE 568

diversion for many other crimes, such as burglary and robbing and things like that. You can still have pre-trial diversion if you go rob a Kwik Shop, but if you are picked up for DWI, there is no pre-trial diversion and I think that kind of points out a discrepancy in like the degree of the crime, and I think that pre-trial diversion would be more advantageous to have in DWI cases than it would necessarily in burglary or robbery or armed robbery. So I would urge you to support Senator Koch's amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Nichol, on the Koch amendment.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the Koch amendment, not because I want to be obstinate at all. This is the first loophole. We have drawn a tight bill. If you want to get out for this reason and that, this is number one, no question about it. I understand that Dodge County...Douglas County rather, does have a good pre-trial diversion program. The only thing we would like to do is not allow this on drunk driving, allow it on everything else, of course, and you still have your pre-trial diversion for all other crimes which are certainly more than this one. But, Lancaster County also has a good pre-trial diversion program and they do not go pre-trial diversion on drunk driving. They don't do it. So if you want to go this route and provide the first loophole, then you start the system and you will destroy any bill that is in front of you this year. I would like to see us stay with the bill. You may have the pre-trial diversion on other crimes....other offenses, but stay with it on this one. So I would oppose the Koch amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to support Senator Koch's amendment. I think that the issue here is one of what is the most appropriate way...what is the most appropriate way to deal with individuals who have a drinking problem, and obviously people who are caught, arrested for driving while intoxicated have some sort of a drinking problem. Frankly, the program that is being talked about is in existence in two counties, Sarpy County and Dodge County. The program is an opportunity for these people to deal with their problem, to learn about alcohol, to learn about its effects and come to a better understanding how it affects them and how it can affect their lives. I think the purpose of this whole issue, and I think we have to