

alcohol. That is not being addressed by this bill at all. The only thing being attempted is to show people that the Legislature can be hard. Remember this one thing, Chief Justice Krivosha has now begun to mention things that I have said to the Judiciary Committee over and over and over, the jails are overcrowded in this state right now. In Douglas County in the corrections center they have been given permission to put two bunks in one-bunk cells. They are not able to find places to put people. With that being the case right now, it is very easy for the Legislature to say, we are going to set up mandatory sentences for all of these various things. But I say on this as I have said on other matters, you are simply transferring the problem to somebody else. Or if you will, you are taking it from one pocket and putting in into the other because the same people are going to foot the bill for all of it. It would be better for the Legislature not to create new problems in the area of corrections and jails where they already exist and cannot be solved. You have problems at the local jail level, the county level and the state pen level. I don't think it is fair to disregard the total context in which this problem ought to be viewed. So right now I am forgetting about alcohol and everything else and looking simply at the absence of space to put all these people that these bills envision putting in jail. And I haven't heard anybody on the floor of the Legislature address that. There was a doctor speaking to the Judiciary Committee and he thought my concern about jails was very poor, that it was unnecessary, had nothing to do with the issue, and I asked him would he with me go to the Governor and find money to build new jail facilities to lock all these people up. He didn't indicate that he wouldn't, but the hypocrite went right after that and wrote a letter to another point of view and said nothing about helping to provide jail space and gave the same simplistic arguments he gave before the Judiciary Committee. We have more responsibility than these doctors who don't look at all aspects of a problem that must be dealt with legislatively. So I am asking you as one step toward a proper solution accept the amendment that is being offered, then I have an amendment that might help to solve the whole problem.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Schmit. Senator Koch, do you wish to close?

SENATOR KOCH: Is that that....?

SENATOR CLARK: Do you wish to close?

SENATOR KOCH: Okay, thank you, Mr. Chairman, I will close.