

you begin to run out of space, what are you going to do? Who even cares? It doesn't make any difference. Pass the law and let others worry about it, and then if there are too many people in the facility and an inmate brings a lawsuit and wins, you think Douglas County might not get the idea that we need to go down there and ask the Legislature to do something about this or at least indemnify us? They are the ones who caused us to have this overflow. The Legislature is often asked to take a position that has not been well thought out by those who are persuading the Legislature to do it. This is why I decided not to offer the kill motion. I'll just present these things for the record and I'm going to vote against the bill and I hope others will vote against it also.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Pirsch, please, followed by Senator Lindsay.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. One of the pluses that I believe is done or accomplished by increasing this penalty is that those women or those men who had been paying fines and going through the revolving door, using that fine money as a cost of doing business will be stopped by this increase and one of the possibilities was given to us by a minister who is starting a program for former prostitutes, those who want to get out of this system, those who need safe homes and while they find themselves wanting to get out, are intimidated and live in fear from their pimp. And this program, while it is in its infancy, certainly could develop to be an alternative sentencing program that these women could be helped, they could be shown perhaps a different way of life and it would give the opportunity for the courts to do that rather than pay a fine, post a bond, pay a fine and out you go and you move on. I think that's one of the first positive things that I have ever heard of in this area. We all know it has been a problem for a long time and not just a problem in women or sometimes men dressed up as women, standing on the streets to do more than just solicit, but take their victim for muggings, robbings, assaults and far worse crimes than the first one that the...that we think of when we think of the word prostitution. I heartily support LB 116 and believe Senator Lindsay is on the right track and hope that you will support it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Lindsay, please, followed by Senator Chambers, then Senator Smith.