

other young people and be untouched by the police, if you also agree to serve as a snitch and make cases for them so they can make arrests? This dope dealer will be given immunity if he works as a snitch or an informant for the police and the way they get him, they get the goods on him and they tell him, as long as you make the arrests for us, make the cases for us, we won't bring the charges. If you decide to back out not only will we bust you on these charges, but we'll put the word out at the institution that you're a snitch and you work for us, and that's how they do it and that's why they're not touching the drug traffic. This bill is a farce, it is a sham, and what ought to be done, if the police are serious, is to meet with people in the community and get input from them as to what ought to be done and make representations of what rationally and practically can be done by law enforcement. Mr. Chairman, I'm not going to make you sit me down, I'll sit down because I see my time is up, but I have to speak again.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Moore, followed by Senator Nelson and Senator Abboud.

SENATOR MOORE: Abboud has it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Abboud, would you like to respond first? You have the privilege. Senator Moore, you'd be next then.

SENATOR ABOUD: Yes. Well, I think that I rise in opposition to the kill motion, obviously. But I think what Senator Chambers is focusing in on is a real frustration that we have in the City of Omaha in dealing with the cocaine and crack problem that we're facing here in the city and what is the best approach to deal with it. How do you deal with individuals that are making millions of dollars off the sale of crack and cocaine? You can increase the amount of law enforcement which the City of Omaha is doing. You can encourage public education on the harms and dangers of using crack and cocaine which I believe the city and the state is doing, as well as the national government. And one other area that you can use, and which has been used effectively, is to tell individuals that if they sell, if they market, if they manufacture or if they distribute or dispense cocaine or crack, that they are going to have to go to prison. There won't be a question of probation. It will be simply a matter of them being convicted and, once they are convicted, then they will go to prison. That's the idea of the mandatory minimum sentencing. Now currently 26 states have taken this