

are cases when rehabilitation would be far better than a mandatory three-year sentence, but the question is, you know, the amount, and I don't know how that amount...and I tried to get that in Judiciary Committee. If I was assured that this was definitely the ones that come in from, you know, out...well, of course, they are always out of state. They're never Nebraskans that would do that, but the big dealer, that's the ones that I want to reach and I want to be sure though that we're not applying it to those that can be rehabilitated and can be helped and that's the question in my mind. I think Senator Abboud has answered that but he's not fully answered it, in my mind, and you can make the penalty so strong that the judges will not apply it and it will be of no value whatsoever.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, please, and then Senator Hefner.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I do know what I'm talking about and I do know what the problems are. To give you an example of how much foresight I have, when they were using Ritalin in the public schools in Omaha in the sixties on school children who were called hyperactive, I launched a high profile public campaign against its use and said you're going to start these children out early with this drug and it will become a street drug, and now Ritalin is one of the worst street drugs in Omaha and there are people going to doctors saying they need it for their child and they are getting it. The AMA during those years wrote long editorials against the position that I took because doctors were making a lot of money setting up practices prescribing Pitalin to children who were supposed to be hyperactive, didn't even know how it worked, didn't even know for sure whether the child needed a drug. So there are people who will not look at an issue from the standpoint of achieving something beneficial to those who need the help. It is popular now to say we have a big stick to use against drugs and this is not it. When I mentioned using the snitches and allowing them to commit violations of the law as long as they remain snitches, the state patrol was doing this some years ago and they might...probably are still doing it now, and we had to investigate as the Judiciary Committee or a specially constituted committee the activities of the state patrol encouraging people to commit crimes, encouraging them to do wrong, to pad their statistics and Senator Schmit can talk about that more if it becomes necessary. I'd like to ask Senator Abboud one question. Senator Abboud, you mentioned that