

of money for that 18 months. So it's not a deterrent the way it is now. Now I'm not going to say that this bill is going to stop it, but I am going to say that possibly it would have something to do with slowing it down and those people who do get caught and we do put them in the pen, quite frankly, I would like to hang them up by their thumbs and do a lot worse than just put them in prison, but we can't do that. We just can't do that anymore. That's a terrible thing to do. So we have heard it said here if the police would do their job, if the police would do their job. Well, now just maybe, just maybe the police are going to feel at least it's worthwhile now for me to try and go out and get these pushers because they're going to serve more than 18 months. It's going to be more worthwhile for me to go do my job because I'm getting tired of hauling these guys down there and in 18 months having them walk by me and thumb their nose at me. I'm getting tired of that. If I can put them away for longer, just quite possibly I'm going to go after more of them. So, on that basis alone, I would ask you to support LB 592. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schmit, please, followed by Senator Lamb.

SENATOR SCHMIT: To tell a story in Seventeenth Century England, they used to hang pickpockets and, of course, it was a great public event. And the public would gather around the scaffold and watch with great interest while the condemned was being hanged. And in the crowd where they were gathered around the scaffold, of course, the pickpockets were working very diligently. The penalty didn't deter them but eventually they found out they couldn't get away with it and so they finally gave up or, at least, they slowed down the crime a little. Senator Haberman makes his pitch for keeping them locked up longer. I would assume, of course, that when the Appropriations Committee comes before this body and wants five or ten million bucks for a new penitentiary system that, of course, Senator Haberman will be one of the foremost supporters. I would assume that Scotty Moore and Chris Abboud will also be strongly in support of that. I would like to ask...and I see Scotty is gone...get over here. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Moore, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I would like to ask, Scotty, if the highway patrol came to you and said, we do not have the equipment we