

time last week, the kilos of cocaine that were found in the...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR ABBODD: ...the bus terminal in Omaha, we were still well ahead of the schedule of increases that we would have had compared to last year. We've seen a phenomenal increase, and the fact that they were able to seize this amount shows that there is a tremendous amount of cocaine and crack being funneled through Nebraska. I'd like to go back quickly to one of Senator Chambers' handouts, dealing with the pregnant woman, because that's a shocking, shocking problem. But, if you'll note, even in the story, that individual received 15 months in prison for possessing the cocaine. The sentence was not handed out for an individual that sold, distributed or manufactured cocaine or crack, so this bill would not have applied to this particular individual. I think what this provides is it says to drug dealers across the state that Nebraska is not open for business when it comes to the sale of cocaine and crack. You don't have the right to come in here and profit on the misery of individuals in this state. There is a lot of money in it but, if you're going to make your money, it's not going to be in this state. We have severe penalties for the individuals that are willing to risk it, and if they are willing to risk and make money off the misery of other individuals, I think those individuals should go to prison and get them off the streets. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Lindsay, discussion on the motion, followed by Senators Chambers and Hannibal.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Mr. President and colleagues. I do rise in opposition to the IPP motion. I think the bill is a bill that does attempt to go after the drug dealers. I think more importantly it sends a message to law enforcement officers that the policy of this state is to not go after the street user, it's rather to go after the...after the dealer. However, I would also concur with Senator Chambers that this is not a huge step towards eliminating the problem, especially in the Omaha area. I harbor no illusions that it is such a step, and I would hope that the rest of the Chamber also knows that. I don't think that, at least in the Omaha area, that we've even identified the scope of the problem, much less the effective manner of attacking the problem, and it is a problem, and it's a problem that's going to extend to the rest of the state at some