

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So then, if the sentence is five years, what then becomes the minimum roughly, or the period of time that a person would serve before they are eligible to be released?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: It would be 31 months.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Members of the Legislature, I know I waste a lot of time trying to make...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...members of the Legislature understand things, but even with all of the time that is wasted, if 10 percent of the time something gets through, then it might make all the other 90 percent of futility worth it. Five years, even with the word mandatory, does not mean five years. You're not even doing what you're going to leave here and tell the public that you've done where a sentence is concerned. Three years does not mean three years. You have to take the time to do what I did when I wanted to create a mandatory minimum by specifically suspending the operation of the good-time laws for a period of calendar months or years. And that was not done in this bill. So, again, I'm wasting time. I'm talking to the wind.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You think I like drugs? Then why am I opposed to this bill, if I'm the one who am clamoring to have something done about it? I'm the banker, and you're saying I've got a way to stop bank robbers and I, the banker, am telling you that is no good.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. Those in favor of ceasing debate please vote aye, opposed nay. Shall debate cease? Have you all voted? Have you all voted, if you'd care to vote, on ceasing debate? Senator Abboud.