

PRESIDENT: Okay, we're ready to discuss the advancement of the bill. Senator Chambers, your light was on, did you wish to speak on that?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I share Senator Schmit's feeling and I have watched a lot that we have done this session as a Legislature. I know that the budget committee, the Appropriations Committee is thinking about spending several millions of dollars to build additional prison space but not to house the kind of people that would do these kind of things. I have watched how the Legislature will so quickly say, increase sentences and be sure you punish those who commit nickel and dime crimes, but those who would plunder the treasury dress the same way, move in the same social circles, are the friends and colleagues of members of the Legislature and the interests they represent so they're not to be touched. If somebody of the wrong ethnic persuasion had put that building together, people would be using that to show why they should never be trusted to do this again. But when you have what have been called respected, reputable companies ripping off the taxpayers, then there are certain esteemed members of the Legislature who don't want questions to be asked but they ought to be asked anyway. There are no John F. Kennedys in this body who were deemed by some to be the second coming of Abraham Lincoln and the forerunner of the second coming of Christ, just ordinary senators from their little districts and a little Legislature in Nebraska. Members who, on certain occasions, will assume the moral high ground talk about protecting the public's money, watching the cushion, as it's called, but when it comes to something like this we should just wipe it off the slate. There have been mentions of the so-called experts and John Kennedy was making a comment about certain activities related to Cuba or "Cuber", as he would say, and he had some unwise decisions and he said his mistake was in trusting the experts. And that's what we hear here all day, expert this, expert that, and the ones who are to be trusted are responsible for a building coming down. They can't determine whether there is a structural flaw in the building or not. They don't know whether it's poor workmanship, workpersonship. They don't know whether it's the architects, don't know whether it's the engineers, but a lot of money has been squandered and more is to go the same way. I'm not an economist, haven't even studied economics, but I have heard it said repeatedly that the first principle of economics is that you don't send good money after