

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hall, would you respond?

SENATOR HALL: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Hall, I don't know whether you know any more about this than I do. I just became aware of this a few minutes ago. And as a co-signer of the bill I felt obligated to find out a little bit more about the purposes, more than what you've said on the floor for removing these two words. I know it's a simple amendment in the fact that it's made up of only three words. But it does quite a lot to the bill, I believe. You know it was brought to my attention while we were sitting here listening to you talk. We were visiting about the fact that we've just come up...we've just come through a lot of debate on this floor about, for instance, the statute of limitations regarding the pharmacy college and things like that. And now we're talking here about making excuses for letting people off?

SENATOR HALL: Senator Smith, then it would have been appropriate for the pharmacy college, if it would have worked in that case, I probably wouldn't be offering this amendment. Since it wasn't applicable there I see no need to leave arson and forgery, since those didn't apply in the statute. I offer the amendment, hoping that I can be talked out of it, that there is good reason to not strike these two provisions.

SENATOR SMITH: Maybe if I let you have my time you can talk yourself out of it.

SENATOR HALL: No, no, I'd be more interested in listening to your arguments.

SENATOR SMITH: I don't really...I just am trying to understand why this is important to be taken out of this bill, if in fact it's already...it exists that way now in statute. Why, at this point in time, do you want to remove that limitation?

SENATOR HALL: It is my feeling that, Senator Smith, that there are a number of crimes that I would consider more heinous and would be more justified of having an open-ended or unlimited statute. And I gave the example in my opening of rape, rape of an 82-year-old woman, I would think, should not probably have any less statute of limitations than writing a bad check, or forging ones name on a document, or the fact that someone may