

put in your safety deposit box and could sit there for a period of three, four, five years until you try to negotiate it. And all of a sudden you find out it's been forged or it's gone. And as much as we'd like people to obey the laws, we know that they don't. And it becomes a matter of what is practical and what is unique about the particular crimes. Arson is another one of those ones. Arson, of all the crimes that we have or the majority of the crimes, is very hard to prove because it's hard...usually no one is there to watch it. And usually you build those cases on patterns, you build them on circumstantial evidence. But a lot of those cases are built on somebody coming around and collecting insurance money later, and quite frankly they know when the statute of limitations are. But they also go out and they tend to brag about those cases, and a lot of times that's how you catch them. But it's a few years down the line. But in particular forgery is a very, very difficult crime to catch quickly. Three years is a short period of time. And I guess I don't see good policy reasons for taking them out right now on this short of notice. These are the types of things that I think are probably good discussion. I think Senator Hall is articulate...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...enough to take that to the Judiciary Committee and look at that. And there may well be some other crimes that we want to extend the statute of limitations, there might be some we want to take it away from. But right now I think forgery and arson are there for a purpose, they've been there for a long time. They might have even been there before there were lobbyists. I don't know, Senator Hall, if back in the good old days there were lobbyists. But I think the reason that they're there, quite frankly, is because they are traditionally the most serious crimes and they are the hardest ones to prove. And they are the ones that, as a practicality, society needed to have a period of time to prosecute and oftentimes they involve large amounts of money, and they are a rather subverted crime, they are not easily seen, there are usually not witnesses, and for that reason there aren't a statute of limitations for them. I would urge the body to defeat the Hall amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Langford, please.

SENATOR LANGFORD: I would, Mr. Chairman, colleagues, I really