

March 28, 1990

LB 976

SENATOR PIRSCH: Which would mean that your IC has a mandatory minimum of five years to 50 years, and the IB is 10 years to life?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right.

SENATOR PIRSCH: So what you are really doing then is changing the minimum?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And the maximum.

SENATOR PIRSCH: You are reducing the minimum, and, well, the maximum, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mm-huh.

SENATOR PIRSCH: I think what Senator Johnson is getting at is that we are talking about the minimum, and as you rail against the judges that gives direction to them for a more comprehensive and equitable minimum, and I would oppose your amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Bernard-Stevens, please. Thank you. Senator Chambers, your light is next, followed by Senators Abboud and Pirsch.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Pirsch a question based on the observation she just made.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Can a judge right now give a sentence in these categories...let me make clear the categories that I am talking about, the categories that have a maximum of 50 years, disregarding whatever the minimum might be for a moment, because the smallest minimum is five years.

SENATOR PIRSCH: And that is your one to seven ounces of cocaine sales.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, forget all that because this bill is going to bump it up to the next higher so I don't (interruption).