

January 28, 1991 LB 23

children, because at the present time, very frankly, it is not adequate.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Further discussion, Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, Senator Abboud would you yield to a couple of quick questions?

SENATOR ABBOD: Yes, I will, Senator.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Chris, if I remember my felonies, the basic difference between the IV and a III are the minimum, is that correct?

SENATOR ABBOD: I'm sorry.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: The basic difference between the IV and a III class felony are the minimum.

SENATOR ABBOD: Yes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: So what we basically have on a Class III felony would be the minimum of one year.

SENATOR ABBOD: One to 20.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: So we're basically, if the law does what the intent of LB 23, if we follow the intent, we would, hopefully, have more of these people in jail, is that correct, in prison?

SENATOR ABBOD: Well, you never know. I mean, on a first offense a lot of times these individuals get some sort of probationary sentence and those individuals may not serve any time the first offense. A second offense you ensure a minimum prison sentence.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Right. So I guess the bottom line of what I'd like the body to think about at some particular point though I'm not necessarily against LB 23, I think, again, the intent is good, but we in the body have to keep understanding a couple points. Number one, the more people that we...the more mandated sentences we put, the more people we put into the