

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ..more near the time that they're released. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Wesely. Does anyone else wish to speak to the committee amendments? Seeing none, do you have closing, Senator Chizek?

SENATOR CHIZEK: No.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Chizek. We will now vote on the committee amendments. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, on the adoption of committee amendments, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Committee amendments are adopted. Senator Chizek, would you like to...or, I'm sorry, Senator Kristensen, would you like to open on the bill itself?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you. Madam President, members of the body, I'd like to continue on a little bit with an explanation of what the bill does. Once a person is found to have committed the crime, been convicted, the judge really has sentencing that occurs at that time. The judge shall be able to make some decisions as to how long they serve in prison, shall be able to make some decisions whether they should be on probation, receive their treatments on those areas just on probation and not have to go to prison. Part of the problem is that you always need a mix. That judge, she may want to sentence that this person needs to be punished, but they also need some treatment. They need some care to be done to them, so she can sentence them into this program. At a later time, towards the end of their sentence, the Department of Public Institutions can come back to a judge and say, Judge, you know, we think that this person has made great strides but they need some aftercare, they need some care to be taken after their sentence is completed, but if...if...we don't have it under the current law. The judge, she would be able to come in and put them on probation, in effect, for a period of time. It could be a long period of time as long as there's some aftercare needed to be done. Aftercare, what's that mean? Well, that's care. That could be as much as