

in the committee amendments that would increase the amount of enforcement of our DWI laws. There is nothing there that says we are going to throw more money, more police time, more State Patrol time with regard to enforcement of the laws that are on the books, or the law that 291 would put on the books. Nothing at all that says we're going to pick up, increase our enforcement. So in other words, we're going to approximately have the same number of individuals, and if you look at the historic record on the number of stops in Douglas County, for example, roughly 3,400 on an annual basis. There's nothing there in LB 291 that says we're going to do more of that, we're going to try to increase the awareness, we're going to try to increase the man hours, we're going to increase the budget for purposes of bringing these individuals in compliance. All we're going to do, in 291, is deal with increasing penalties, increasing penalties which means, in my opinion, increased hardship where none has been...no purpose for regard to the need of the increased penalties has been shown. And on one hand the argument has been that other states have this. But yet when I offer amendments that show that other states have the same provisions, those are rejected in kind. And I would argue that if it washes one way, it ought to wash the other way. But that doesn't hold true because that's not politically expedient, that's not what some special interest groups would like to see happen. They would very much like to see, I believe, a life sentence, and in many cases the death sentence for drunk driving. There may be a case or two where that might be appropriate. But, ladies and gentlemen, the laws that we write are for everyone, they're not just for specific cases. And in this provision that I offer the amendment, number six on page 616 of your Journal, it says that under the issue of a probation, that as long as someone has had a professional evaluation, and literally every judge asks that an individual who has been arrested for DWI undergo an alcohol or chemical dependency evaluation. In other words, you go in and you talk to a professional and they give you a number, a battery of tests that determine whether or not you have a problem. And if you have a problem then there, usually in that probation order, if you're given probation, an individual is required to, in many cases, either undergo treatment, or deal with their problem in some form or fashion, that may be, as I said, undergoing treatment, whether it be on an inpatient, or an outpatient basis, it could be the issue of attending AA meetings, it could be a number of other things. What this amendment would do is say that if that evaluation is done and there is no form or