

away...take them away and have the revocation process and so on. And that's understandable, and I certainly understand the reasons for the...Senator Kristensen and the committee pursuing that process. However, one of the concerns that I've had is that we will put people in jail, we will have an increase in costs, but we're not doing anything particularly, or we're not making an attempt, in my judgment, for treatment. And I think we need to at least recognize the fact that there are many people who need help in fighting the problems, whether it be a drug abuse problem, or a chemical abuse problem, or an alcohol related problem. So what this amendment does, and it...and it...and we're talking about people under 21, under 21 years of age, we're basically saying that if the conviction is a first time conviction, and it's basically...amendment, which is printed in the Journal, at least my intention was to have it printed in the Journal, says the following, if such person has not had a prior conviction under this sentence, or has not been convicted under a city, a village or enacted pursuant to this section, such persons shall be required to attend, for at least three months, an alcohol or drug treatment program. And the word three...the time period of three months is because that is the average stay that is taken over a time period on most of the treatment processes. I go on to say the following, if a person has had a conviction under this sentence, but...and has been convicted under a city or village ordinance, but they also have never had treatment, that particular sentence then would be towards treatment. In other words, everyone would at least, on the first offense and/or the first time that they had been caught since the enactment of this pa...of this bill, if it does pass, we would at least say we're going to make an attempt at treatment. And I think that's important, that we give that option out there, that we recognize that it just doesn't do much good to put people in jail, take licenses away and say we're going to have a harsh punishment, but we still have a person who is in difficult trouble on chemical or alcohol abuse. So this is the way that we can also say let's look at the treatment aspect as well, let's try...let's make an attempt at helping the person go that...that...you know, to go that extra mile for that person. And then if that fails and we have certainly other problems, then the rest of the bill certainly comes into effect. That's the nature of the amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Just, I'm sitting here listening to Senator