

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Mr. President, members, Senator Bernard-Stevens, I have a question also. And I guess some of that was asked by Senator Kristensen. My thought in that is that as we think this through and a minor would get three months into a treatment program, very likely if the judge would make them into...have to enter...actually enter into a treatment program, that would pull that young person out of whatever educational pursuit they are in at that time. And do...is that really a positive step in what we want to do? I mean, would that be such a negative attitude then if we're taking them, I guess, out of high school, or if they've entered into college, or community college, and that they would have to pull out of that program if they had to go to a treatment center for three months on a first time offense seems to me to...it is certainly something serious, we want to take a look at. But to pull them possibly out of that program would seem to me a little bit of overkill and would cause some concerns. And I don't know if you had thought of that or...or I'll give you any time I have left to respond to that.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Bohlke, I appreciate the comments very much. And, yes, I have thought of it. You know, the body is in, I think, a very interesting position at this point. Nowhere have we talked about treatment. And I have my light on, so if you wanted to say any further comments, I can give you the time back, or else I'll use the rest of your time, whatever you pref...okay. One of the things that the body is in a dilemma on is that we want to get rid of the drunken driver on the street. I don't think any of us are...are in here saying we don't want that to happen. But the other thing is that we...we know deep down, but we have to talk about treatment because sometimes these things are, in essence, diseases that have to be...that have to be worked on, or there are other reasons that have to be...have to be...have to be pursued by professionals. I don't think there are many people in here who would doubt this particular statement, that the drug of choice, right now, among Nebraska teenagers is alcohol. That is the drug of choice. And I can assure you that in...in...in the vast majority of cases the teenager that is the person under 21, who is nabbed on the MIP, this is not their first time out, gee, I took my first beer and I got caught. This is something that is a problem that's