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SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...and we sort of have a...at least at one time had a uniform system of valuations for grading of offenses.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Right.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: And arson, which can be deemed, in a way, a type of theft through destruction, criminal mischief being the same, those were all uniform figures, 100 to 300, 300 on up, those sorts of things...

SENATOR LINDSAY: Uh-huh.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...and we start to blur these lines now by making some offenses...in other words, I could destroy a piece of property worth 300 and get a misdemeanor and...or get a felony, now I could...I could write a bad check and do the theft and get a felony for the same amount. My interest is just keeping all the criminal gradings the same for uniformity's sake so you don't treat different values at different amounts. And I'm not sure on how I'm going to vote on this, but that's a concern I have and I would like you to address why it would be different for this one element as compared to criminal mischief, arson and other crimes.

SENATOR LINDSAY: The...the theft offenses, as I suggested, I will be offering an amendment to change those also and those will be kept in line. I...I have to go...when I was first going through these, I think that check offenses did not agree with the theft offenses, the amounts, and I will double check that when I get away from the microphone. But the second reason is that uniformity certainly is a good element, but when the code was first...when it was revised, aggregation of offenses was not...you were not allowed to do that to reach these different levels. If we're going to allow aggregation, it makes it extremely easy for somebody to hit felony level without having any concept of what they're doing. So if we're going to allow aggregation, if we're going to allow them to add up all these checks that people write, then we ought to be adjusting those check levels or those amount levels so that people aren't getting hit with a felony for writing two or three checks.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: But isn't...isn't the purpose of aggregation...you're making a quantum leap there, aggregation, in effect, says that they all really were one scheme to do that, that's the reason for the seriousness of the crime, as opposed