

the price tag and as I listened to that, one statement was that a mandatory 30 days has a price tag we haven't seen. What I would say to that is that second offense drunk driving certainly has a price tag all of us have seen. Also he said, it would absolutely have a price tag for taxpayers. I believe that in most cases second offense drunk driving does have a price tag for all taxpayers also. He also mentioned that the person may lose their vacation time, and I say that doesn't break my heart. And so I rise to oppose. In case the microphone went out, I said that doesn't break my heart. I rise to oppose Senator Hall's amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President and members, and I apologize that...I guess I haven't broken anybody's heart, but that doesn't matter to me either because I will stay here all night because this is bad law and I welcome that opportunity. That is not a problem at all because, Senator Pirsch, I'm afraid all you need to do is call the folks down at the Douglas County Jail and ask them what a mandatory minimum sentence would do on second offense drunk driving. It's not an issue of house arrest, it's not an issue of work release, it's not an issue of 30 days which is the mandatory language, not the minimum, not the mandatory minimum, but the mandatory language in statute as it exists now, it's a huge increase in terms of jail time. It means there is no leeway for the judge in terms of where they can place that sentence. It is a mandatory minimum. That is new language in the law. If it wasn't, it wouldn't have to be in there underscored as it is. And I appreciate Senator Hillman's respect for her constituents, which one that may have been that wrote to her and said that they believe this way. That's fine. I happen to believe this way in terms of the issue of driving under the influence as it relates to second offense. We also have a death penalty and we also have a number of other crimes that are out there where there are provisions in terms of sentencing that give judges tremendous leeway. In this one single area the body of law surrounding it as far as sentencing becomes punitive. It's punitive in nature because we are so frustrated because we can't control it and that's exactly what it amounts to. We can't control it. So what we want to try to do is put as harsh a group of penalties in place after the fact, after the fact. Show me one thing in this bill that prevents drunk driving. There is nothing in LB 291, AM3901, or my amendment to it that prevents drunk driving. Senator Crosby,