

page 6 and 7 and it strikes that one section and inserts a new section and this is what in essence the section will do. It's very straightforward. After any person has been convicted of driving while intoxicated for the first time or any person convicted of driving while intoxicated who has never been assessed for alcohol abuse shall, during a pre-sentence evaluation, submit to and participate in an alcohol assessment. The alcohol assessment shall be paid for by the person convicted of driving under the influence. At the time of sentencing, the judge, having reviewed the assessment results, may then order the convicted person to follow through on the alcohol assessment results at the convicted person's expense, in lieu of or in addition to any penalties deemed necessary. What I'm trying to do is instead of saying all the time, how long we're going to put them in jail, are we going to give them probation, and what are they going to do on the probation side, and how much money they're going to have to pay, to finally get the discussion at to the real problem. The problem is how can we get them to stop drinking and driving. And this is one of the amendments that is trying to do that, and basically it will be during the pre-trial, during the pre-sentence, excuse me, evaluation. They will then submit and participate in an alcohol assessment, the judge will review the assessment at the time of the sentencing and then he can ask the person to follow through on that assessment at their expense in lieu of the penalties or in addition to the penalties that Senator Kristensen has in front of us. I don't believe it's unreasonable. I think it is an attempt to deal with the beginning of the problem. I still have some other problems with the bill, but at least this one section would make me feel a tad bit better that we're trying to deal with the cause of rather than just putting them in jail, making them pay a fine, putting them out into society and we haven't done anything to deal with the problem and we're right back on a second offense or a third offense, or a fourth offense. So that's the amendment, quite simple. I leave it to the body at this particular time.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Pirsch, do you wish to speak to this amendment? Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABBOD: Mr. President, colleagues, I support the amendment. I feel that the basic problem that we have with drunk driving is individuals that have a drug, or drug and alcohol problem and these individuals need help. They need the kind of help that hopefully can occur as a result of the