

need for uniformity, I don't have a problem with that, but I think we went the wrong direction the last time and I understand a need for some good time, but I think this is excessive. And so I would just urge you to consider strongly before you vote for this because I don't believe that is the message the law abiding citizens of the State of Nebraska want. I think they want criminals to be incarcerated for an appropriate period of time. And there should be some truth in sentencing, shouldn't there? Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Hall, on LB 234.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President and members, I rise in support of the advancement to E & R initial of LB 234. The proposal does this. It says that if an inmate is...behaves appropriately for seven days, not for one day, but for seven days, then they get seven days of what is called good time. They basically are, have their sentence reduced for seven days. It is not a one day for one day proposal as some think. They have to be within the guidelines of the institution for seven full days. If they go five days, they don't get five days, they go back to square one. It is not a one for one kind of proposal as some think. It requires that seven days be completed in order to achieve or get those seven days of good time and that good time, depending on what other behavior takes place on the part of the inmate, can be pulled back. It's at the discretion of the Department of Corrections. If they do something that is totally outside the guidelines of the institution, that good time can be pulled back. Why do we have good time in the first place? And you have it so that you can control the population. Think about not having the, any incentive for folks who have been incarcerated for any number of years or any number of months, they know that they're going to be there, they know that there is no possibility at all for them to reduce their sentence, what incentive do they have to not cause as much trouble as possible, short of committing a crime within the walls so they could not be resentenced or have additional time put on their sentence? What you are creating is a situation that is a nightmare for the folks who operate the correctional facilities. You listen to some of the conversation it sounds as if some would do away with good time all together. That...it's a wonderful concept to talk about, it makes for great campaign ads, but it just doesn't work. Frankly, it's the correctional facilities, the experts, those who are the professionals in this