

SENATOR WITEK: Madam Chairman, members of the body, where's the logic in this bill? I passed out a sheet that shows what I still say is the erosion of the good time measure and these bills were introduced by Senator Lindsay whether he claims it was a "screw up" and he had intended to introduce this bill two years ago instead of the bill that was introduced. It still has shown that we have slowly eroded this time in prison for these individuals. And now you're telling me again that we need more good time in the prisons to keep these individuals in line or behaving in the prisons. So now you're telling me that if they can't behave for 14 days to get their seven days off, we're going to just say, just behave for a week. What kind of individual are you releasing early that can't behave for two years in prison? You're going to put them out a week early on the street where they're going to behave? I hope you're really thinking this one through because I was shocked when this went through the last time. And then you tell me that we're doing this to be the same as at the state level. If I had been here when you passed this law at the state level I would have voted against it because to me, first of all, if these individuals can't behave in prison, they're certainly not going to behave out on the street. And second of all, this is not what the people in this state want. They don't want individuals who have already in a lot of cases made some kind of plea bargain for their sentence, they've already gotten shortened sentences for one reason or another, back out on the streets in half the time. You've got to understand that this law not only takes away the 14 days consecutive, down to seven days consecutive, what is going to happen on the eighth day? Are they just going to have like a day for bad behavior and then start their seven days again? At least they're behaving for 14 consecutive days with the good time law that we have now or they don't even get any good time. So to me I would think the guys who are working in these prisons would want to keep it the way it is so they get 14 solid days of good behavior and hopefully everybody is on the same schedule. If I could get the bill out of Senator Lindsay's Judiciary Committee, I would put in a bill to take the good time at the state level away from violent criminals and the good time at the state level to at least this level. Senator Hall said it's a modest proposal. What's the next proposal going to be? What's the immodest proposal going to be? One day served, we give them two days good time? I mean where are we going here, yeah, there's an idea, right, bring that one in in two years time. I mean seriously, please think of this because I didn't think it could pass the first time and was totally shocked when