

at this time to change that. We've got it, let's keep it, let's not lower it. Please don't vote for this bill to advance. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Witek. The Chair recognizes Senator Jensen, followed by Senators Chambers, Bernard-Stevens, Lynch, Dierks, Robak, Pedersen and Lindsay.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. As Senator Witek did say, we're not talking about just a misdemeanor, because a misdemeanor does include many things--child abuse, obscene literature, resisting arrest, obstructing a peace officer. I have spent time in the correctional facility in Douglas County. I taught classes in a life learning dorm. I'm not a novice when it comes to the correction system. But we need to think about the reason that they were sent there, and it wasn't to just have an overnight stay, a one week stay, but, as has been said before, there is time when they were...where these have been reduced down, through plea bargaining, but it is time that needs to be spent. It is time that many times just the 14 days of time to reflect on what they have done, I think, can many times change an individual from a lifestyle of crime into thinking that there must be a better way to conduct my lifestyle. And I still cannot be...I will not buy into the process that because you have stiffer sentences we're going to have to build more prisons. Pennsylvania saw a 12.50 percent reduction in their crime by extending their sentences. I believe it works. Short sentences for crimes of this nature, of the misdemeanor, cannot be proven that it is justifiable. I am here because the people have spoken. I certainly am not better looking than my opponent is...was...is, still is, but it was because the people really felt that justice was not being done in our facilities. Therefore, I would again ask you to, and would oppose LB 234 and would encourage you to do the same. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I want to ask Senator Schrock a question or two, because I want to be sure I didn't misunderstand him, and I don't want to misrepresent what he discussed. Senator Schrock, and I'm not going to ask you to repeat it all, did you say that Senator Cudaback, during his campaign, was beaten up pretty much