

calcified. They will not be amenable to a reasonable argument. They cannot change because change is painful. They want to maintain the status quo because it's comfortable. But there must be agents of change and you must realize that there's more than one way to skin a bobcat. I hope that we will though support Senator Preister's amendment for the reasons that he gave.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Chambers. The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I cannot support the amendment although I think that a clean debate on the issue is something that is very reasonable. But the reason that I cannot support the amendment is because, as I understand it, the way the amendment is drafted it reduces from a Class III misdemeanor to a Class V misdemeanor all those items identified in Section 7 of the bill. Well, Section 7 of the bill not only affects the new material that we're dealing with but it affects Sections...the existing Sections 37-528 to 37-531. Now those are provisions in the bill that these are...those are existing unlawful activities in the bill and I think you would really want to think carefully before you reduce those from a Class III misdemeanor to a Class V misdemeanor. Let me just briefly recite to you what those sections are that you would be reducing if you, in addition to reducing the offense in this bill, that you would additionally be reducing. One is 37-528 which makes it unlawful for any person to use any aircraft, vessel, vehicle, snowmobile or conveyance of any type to molest, chase, drive or harass any antelope, deer, game animal, game bird, etcetera and cause it to depart from its habitat area, fields, etcetera. The other section that's...another section that is...that would be reduced in penalty is the section that says it shall be unlawful for any person one day before or during the open season to spot, locate or place under surveillance any antelope, deer or game animal, etcetera, with the aid of any aircraft, etcetera. A third provision that would be reduced is aiding, assisting or accompanying a person in those two activities I just described. Another provision that would be reduced is making it unlawful to use an aircraft or other kinds of vehicles in the commission of these various acts. So I think maybe the irony of Senator Preister's amendment is that at least one of these provisions is really designed to protect...to protect the animals and to control and construct the kind of hunting that will be lawful.