

help people explain it. Let's look at, for example, number 3, to plan improvements in the system. Well, now that's a terrible thing to do. Why would we want to try to improve the indigent defense system? That doesn't make a whole lot of sense. All right, let's look at number 5, that if we're going to strike out their ability to get loans, grants and donations, that's our federal drug money. That's the federal money that would help us so we didn't have to spend so much in this state. If you do away with that, you lose the authority for us to pick up those grants and those other things that come from the state or from the crime commission or the federal government. Now let's look at number 6, that we're going to do away with the contract authority. In other words, they couldn't jointly work with anybody unless they have statutory authority to do so. Now these aren't wild outrageous things. These are just basic fundamental things that if you're going to have a system, they need to have to be able to work. Number 7, it just merely says that they can hold, acquire, dispose of personal property. They need the authority to be able to have that personal property. Now they're, obviously, going to also need an appropriation to do so and so, I mean, these are the sorts of basic routine things that you need statutory authority for them just to carry out the commission's work and, with that, I stand in opposition to the Hall amendment. Senator Hall, I hope you understand that you need some of those basic things to make this commission work and, in fact, if you just say the commission shall meet and make reasonable rules and regulation, you've made it so broad that that ought to offend most people in the Legislature. That's exactly what you don't want to do and, with that, I think it's rather obvious the track that occurs and I, at this point in time, would certainly rise to oppose this amendment and I hope that you would see fit to do so as well. Thank you.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. The Chair recognizes Senator Lindsay on the Hall amendment.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Senator Wesely, members, just one...I wasn't going to talk on this but one thing struck me when Senator Kristensen started talking and said...he quoted planning improvements to the indigent defense system and what could be horrible about that, that's a good thing to do that. And that's fine. My whole point in this whole debate has been let's go into it with our eyes open. Look to the indigent defense task force report that I think most of you may have gotten or taken a look at it some time ago because that is where