

to the drugs, and send them out on the street. They are more vulnerable then than at any other time, but you give them something in the way of self-respect and self-esteem so that they see that the drugs are the destructive substances that they are and they don't want the drugs anymore, they don't need the drugs anymore because they have something to fill that hole in their life that turned them to the drugs in the first place. Before Malcolm X was killed, a group of psychologists and psychiatrists in New York had arranged for him to discuss with them the method used by the Nation of Islam to get people off the hard drugs, but he was cut down before that was done, and I don't know that anybody has made a serious attempt to talk to the nation about it. But there are ways, differing ways to deal with this situation. None of them involves what we are doing here with these bills of putting harsh punishments. That is a way to punish, and I'm not saying at this time Nebraska can get...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...along without punishing because the attitude is such that people don't even understand the nature of what we are talking about. So all I am saying is that we should bring order out of the chaos of the sentencing structure. And then I think we have to reach a point where we will seriously look at some alternatives because nothing to date that has been tried on a wide scale has worked. The problem has only intensified and grown worse. What I am asking us to do is to behave as a responsible Legislature, adopt this amendment and do that which is appropriate.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Abboud, followed by Senator Avery. Senator Abboud waves off. Senator Avery.

SENATOR AVERY: Question.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: That will not be necessary. There are no further lights. The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers to close.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, and members of the Legislature, very few of us are in the body, I mean in this room. I hope someplace there are senators who might have been listening, and on the chance that there might be, I am going to