

expansion or whatever was necessary in those areas. And I would hope that you'd adopt this amendment.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: You've heard the opening on the amendment offered by Senator Witek. I have two lights on the board, I don't know if they want to speak on this amendment. Senator Chambers, do you wish to speak to the Witek amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes. Senator Witek...I...oh, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I...I don't know where you're going to tie your amendment.

SENATOR WITEK: On page 7 after line...on line 24, after the department and F, the subdivision (f) of...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I see it now, okay.

SENATOR WITEK: Okay. Any other program deemed necessary and appropriate by the department, and then I just add "and approved by the Governor".

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay and, Senator Witek, I can understand what you're saying about the oversight, so don't think I missed as what you gave as your rationale. But that's not where my area of concern is. Mine is in laying out programs that we give the appearance to the public as being available. We go a step further and make participation in some of these programs a condition to receiving good time. But there is nothing that ensures that these programs will be in place. So if we put programs out there everybody should have access to some kind of programs. If we don't make programs available sufficient to accommodate all the inmates who are interested in some program then we create divisions. We create the opportunity for the prison administration, and I'm not going to say the present one will do it but it's been done in other places, and to some extent it's been done in Nebraska, where you set inmates against inmates and that's how you maintain control. You can favor some inmates by giving them opportunities if they're snitches, if they do other things that the administration wants to do then they get these privileges. But the problem with that is you create a very unwholesome environment where the inmates feel that anybody in these programs is there because he or she is a snitch and a tool of the administration. So either we should have programs available for everybody, or in no case should we make them a condition to receiving or earning good time. We