

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, I don't need the ten seconds to ask because I see what I was going to ask for has been done.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Pedersen, your light is next.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Witek, I need to just to respond to some of the things you've said. Please understand that I did not offer this to make it look like a bunch of social programs. I am sure that every one of you have heard what are we doing with these people out there, they're sitting out there shooting hoops, watching TV, cable TV on top of everything else and doing nothing. These amendments have been brought to structure their time in hope that they're going to have to do something. On page 4 of the amendments, line 8, letter F, work ethic, as we have changed it from ethics to ethic, and structured work programs. Senator Witek, would you respond to a question, please.

SENATOR HALL: Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: I'm sorry, Senator, I was in a conversation. I apologize.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: No problem. What would you have these prisoners do rather than stand around in the prisons?

SENATOR WITEK: Well, Senator, I guess it's the same as the rest of us do in our life, maybe they could read, maybe they could play the computer, learn how to do computers, Internet, I mean there's things there. Maybe they could talk to each other, maybe they could listen to music. I don't know what they'll do. But all I'm saying is maybe they should be a little bit... Maybe... I hope sometimes they'll sit and think about the damage that they've done, the hardships that they are creating in our society of people trying to afford to deal with them. Maybe they'll sit and think a little bit and have a little quiet time and get away from the environments that maybe...you know, that they're looking for out on the street and think about it. I don't know what they'll do, but I don't know if it has to...if it's up to us to entertain them.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: And that's...and that's about the short and sweet of the whole thing. This is not entertainment, people, this is programs to keep they busy so they're doing something.