

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And those things done at that time do not fade away with the hysteria. They remain the law. The negative consequences remain in place. And when you do things that make it difficult for the prison administration to operate because you've taken away the incentive, namely good time, with some of these mandatory minimum laws then you create a problem that none of us would want to see and which we will be unable to deal with.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Lindsay, to speak to the bracket motion.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Madam President and members, and I'm glad we have a chance, whether it was on the bill itself or on the bracket motion to discuss the bill because I think there are some questions that need to be answered. And the most overriding one is the issue that was thrown into the mix, whether it be last week or yesterday, but it was an Attorney General's Opinion which...and for the record, I stand by my comments in the paper, the...the question is an Attorney General's Opinion which I have never seen one and I...I would ask others of you to look at it, an Attorney General's Opinion that I have never seen is so blatantly political as that one. For the first page and a half of that, or for everything except the last paragraph of that opinion, it told you why 371 is in good shape, why we can validly enact this bill today. It told us we can do that and then in the last paragraph it said, but if I'm wrong, you might have a problem. It's saying, I'm right but don't trust me because I'll screw it up, and that's what it's saying. The fact is if LB 507 is unconstitutional, if LB 507 is unconstitutional, then we have no problem with LB 371. If it's constitutional and there's a problem with whether we validate and enacted it, and I still think we...it complies regardless, well, then we don't just have a problem with LB 371, folks. Senator Schellpeper, your LB 344, LB 344 increases penalties; LB 507, it was not complied with. It's gone. LB 283, Senator Wehrbein, we didn't comply with LB 507, it's gone. We have a list of bills that people have introduced, haven't complied with it. For two years we haven't complied with it, but now we can't pass what a lot of people think is the most important bill this session because, at the last hour, this LB 507 popped up. Why have we been ignoring it for two years and now, now when it looks like the Attorney General might actually have an opponent when he's doing his ranting and raving then it becomes to be an issue and that's what we came down to. Senator Landis, I don't