

March 13, 1996

LB 1189

SENATOR CROSBY: ...as far as our society and the prison population and the people who run the prisons. Think of those people. They need this help. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Chambers, followed by Senators Stuhr, Wehrbein, Brown, Jensen, Janssen, Lindsay, Maurstad and Schimek.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, I'd like to ask Senator Wehrbein a question.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Wehrbein, how important is it that this bill pass?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: LB 1189 or the amendment? LB 1189?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: This bill, 1189.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, I'd say 1189 is very important to pass.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And we get 12 hours on it, don't we?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Twelve, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yeah, we get 12 hours. Thank you. Members of the Legislature, we're talking about time. I like time and I like to spend it where we need it to be spent. And this is a bill that I think we need to spend considerable time on because it gives an opportunity to spotlight how the Legislature does not view the whole panoramic picture when we're legislating. You're supposed to have, based on what I've read and pictures I've seen, two hemispheres to your brain, two brains or a brain with two parts. So what...you can say that when you have the whole brain operating you're whole-witted. The Legislature operates in a half-witted manner. It does one thing on the right hand without considering the impact that will be felt on the left hand. So with all of this discussion that we're having about increasing the number of jail calls, we're not talking at all about the societal problem that we're supposed to be addressing. First of all, no conduct is criminal unless the