

house go under call? All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay.  
Record.

CLERK: 18 ayes, 0 nays to place the house under call.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The house is under call. Members, in the Chamber, record your presence. Unauthorized parties leave the floor. If you are in your office, please return. The house is under call.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Mr. Speaker, can I just go ahead with my closing.

SPEAKER WITHEM: You certainly may. I am sorry, Senator Lindsay. You have another four minutes.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you. I would like to address, first, before I get back into the amendment, address a little bit of what Senator Witek was talking about, then Senator Chambers followed up on. When we talk about why are people in prison, yeah, breaking the law is, I guess, the obvious answer, but breaking what laws and why? And she mentioned that it's not because of what we do that people are in prison, it's because of what they do, and I disagree. If we had a mandatory minimum for jaywalking, I suspect we're going to put more people in prison. If we had a mandatory minimum jail sentence for speeding, I suspect we'd put more people in prison. And would it be those people putting themselves in prison? I guess it's semantics, but...but, yeah, but, of course, it was our action that enabled that. And I think we can't forget what we do here has a direct crucial impact on our prison population. This amendment would study that, come back and say why are people going to prison, why is it that under the truth in sentencing amendment, that Senator Witek mentioned, why is it that the single largest category for people going to prison under that is for driving under suspension? Why is it that the next category for it is for theft? Why is it we...until we, the third category of offenses is before we get to anything that most people would consider a serious offense? I think those are the kinds of things that we need to know, but it is not limited to that. It is broad language that says, tell us in broad terms so that we can start figuring out from this where we should go and what kind of a comprehensive plan should we have. This amendment would take out the planning or the initial start-up money, I