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SENATOR SCHIMEK PRESIDING

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...are not the ones being apprehended. So the bill does have a justifiable purpose in being here. I just am not comfortable with the form that it is in at present. Thank you, Madam President.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Peterson, you're next to speak.

SENATOR C. PETERSON: Thank you, Madam Chairman, members of the body. And I want to thank Senator Chambers. He and I have visited about this subject on and off over actually the session, and I believe he told me that he was the first person to try to raise the issue of the dangerous problem of meth as we are now finally realizing it. The brochure that I handed out to you does give you probably as much information as really there is available on a somewhat limited basis in the short period of time that we'd have to read through this. But let me talk to you just a few things about...about meth. Senator Chambers brought up about the effect that it can have, and there are basically stages that you go through with meth. Meth can be smoked, it can be inhaled, it can be eaten, and it can be injected. And depending on which type of use you have, you have a difference in the reactions that you get from that. Typically, the first reaction is what they call the rush. This can last anywhere from 5 to 30 minutes and this is where the abuser, if they have injected, it happens almost instantaneously. Their heartbeat races, their metabolism climbs, their blood pressure and their pulse soar, and they're in intense feelings of pressure...or of pleasure, excuse me. Then you have the high which can last, again depending upon the purity of the drug, from 4 to 16 hours. And the way that the purity is determined is how...what they call how many times the drug has been stepped on or had an additive put into it so that it reduces the purity. Typically, ice, which is a form of methamphetamine, has to be at least 80 percent pure in order to be classified as ice. In the high period, again the 4 to 16 hours, the abuser feels aggressively smarter, can become argumentative, and this is where the tendency towards violence