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reviews. At this stage I'd like to say again this really is not about the death penalty and whether you support it or not. It truly is about justice. It's whether we're discharging our responsibility, whether we mean what we say in our law. There cannot be such a need for haste as to anything before us that we cannot take the time to gather the facts and to consider that which is just. I'd urge your careful consideration of the committee amendment, its adoption, and the advancement of the bill, and we'll speak further about some specific cases with which I feel the body has a duty to deal as we ensure justice. With that, I would yield the remainder of my time, Mr. Chairman, to Senator Chambers.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Chambers, you have approximately four minutes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Brashear. Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, this is a subject that I have grappled with even before I got into the Legislature. When Governor Morrison was in office, I had written to try to get him to intervene in behalf of a man who was on death row at that time. The man was taken off death row. It may have been because of a court decision. That was a long time ago. But that was prior to any black person being on death. Some people think that is my only interest. I have never believed, even when I was a child and found out that people were killed by the state, I never felt that was right. When I was small I was taught to respect certain institutions and the state wasn't the term that was used, but rather the government. But, at any rate, you were supposed to obey the laws, you were supposed to do what the government told you to do, and the government was the one that made sure that everybody behaved as they should, protected people and so forth. I don't know exactly when I found out that people would be executed, but I couldn't believe it. The only experience I had had with it, in terms of even the intellectual part, was when Jesus had been executed on the cross. I was reared in a church home. And that didn't seem right to me as a child, because I was taught that Jesus had never done anything wrong. But it did show that the ones in power can kill whoever they want to. When I went to Creighton, I used to get in a lot of arguments because Catholics felt at that time that the death penalty was, in a sense, required, that