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the state had to kill people. That seemed inconsistent with a lot of the things that were taught in what were called philosophy classes that we heathens had to take, but it was really theology, under a different name. All of the professed Catholics had to take theology classes. So this idea of the state killing people has always been a difficult one for me to accept. The language that Senator Brashear read to you was part of a lengthy bill that I wrote while I was attending law school, at Creighton. It was a very hot day. They didn't have air conditioning, and I was grappling with that issue again. And I decided that there ought to be something in the law that dealt with this situation where a person in one part of the state would be killed for something which would not result in his or her death in another part of the state. I was in the Legislature. I knew that tax laws had to be applied uniformly, and it seemed to me that the taking of a life by the state had more dire and significant consequences than the exaction of taxes. So I wrote out all of those principles.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Brashear read to you what the Supreme Court's attitude was toward some of the things I tried to get into the law to require the court to do in order to ensure there was what is called in the law proportionality, that similarly situated defendants would be treated in a similar fashion. But based on what Senator Brashear has already brought to you, when you see only a randomly selected small handful of people on death row whose crime cannot be distinguished from the dozens of others who are not on death row, the only conclusion can be that the sentencing structure, with reference to the death penalty, is haphazard, random, and grossly unfair.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Dwite Pedersen.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: I give my time to Senator Chambers.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Excuse me. There's an amendment on the desk. Mr. Clerk, amendment.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, I do have an amendment to the committee amendments from Senator Chambers. It's found in the