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that is to take place prior to September the 1st, 2001. There's been a number of comments in the press about studying the murders that took place since 1973 approaching 1,300. I had passed out to you the material from the Attorney General's Office, which they, I assume, keep current, I'm not sure, about the 10 people of those 1,300 that are still with us and on death row. Thirteen hundred murders. There is in this book, which is from the Legislative Research Office, thousands of murders studied in detail. This is the FBI Source Book of Criminal Justice Statistics, the 1997 edition, and I believe that this is the most current edition. Murder, I would offer to you, is an individual crime. Now we can take the broad view that a Georgian, that is as in Georgia and the Caucasus Mountains, a Georgian philosopher took by the name of Iosif Dzhugashvili, otherwise known as Joseph Stalin, who said that the death of one man is a tragedy and the death of millions are statistics. We can study these statistics, but murder is an individual crime. It is the deprivation from one person of the one thing that is most valuable to all of us, and that is life. It is from the fact that we have a right to live that every other right springs. The amendment, the committee amendment, really appears to me to be kind of the Calvin Coolidge solution. President Coolidge was asked how he responded to a crisis and he said, it's very simple, I appoint a commission chaired by Mr. Hoover and by the time the report comes in the problem has gone away. The difficulty now is that the problem won't go away. One of the reasons that people are punished for crimes is to serve as a deterrent, but if you don't use the punishment you do not deter. Senator Chambers mentioned that the death penalty had been called a cruel and unusual punishment. We have about 6,000 years of written history, going back about 4,000 BC, and one of the earliest samples of written history is the Palette of Narmer, King Narmer, who was an Egyptian king about 4,200 BC. It details how many people he killed in his battles. There is nothing unusual about putting people to death. It is our attitude and the culture that is now with us that says we should respect human life. The problem is that some people do not, evidently 1,300 people since 1973. And we can study 1,300 sets of facts and it doesn't take three years. It probably, if you were working on it,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.