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PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: "Modern society has the means of protecting itself without definitively denying criminals the chance to reform. I renew the appeal I made most recently at Christmas, for a consensus to end the death penalty, which is both cruel and unnecessary". Pope John Paul, January 27, 1999, when he gave his mass in St. Louis.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Tyson, followed by Landis, Connealy, Don Pederson, and Senator Price.

SENATOR TYSON: Thank you, Mr. President. I regret and I apologize to this body for allowing Senator Chambers to get in there with a saint ahead of me. I'll do the best I can under the circumstances. I also want to point out before I get to that, that there is a thing called the "law of Dave Landis", which states that no good deed shall go unpunished, and I'm not going to furnish him with anymore of my notes. Having said that, I will quote St. Thomas Aquinas, a doctor of the Church. He said, a secondary measure of the law...pardon me, a secondary measure of the love of God may be said to appear for capital punish provides the murderer with incentive to repentance which the ordinary man does not have, that is a definite date on which he is to meet his God. It is as if God thus providentially granted to him a special inducement to repentance out of consideration of the enormity of his crime. The law grants to the condemned an opportunity which he does not grant to his victim, the opportunity to prepare to meet his God. Even divine justice here may be said to be tempered with mercy. Now I'm giving you that as a direct quote. Has Senator Chambers left the floor? Well, I'll pass over that...the next portion. I do want to address, very, very briefly, one of the things that has been floated here, one of the ideas that has been discussed, and that is, can we be absolutely sure that in the death penalty process we are punishing only guilty people? The law is a human institution, it is administered by humans, and it is capable of error. And therefore I could not state...stand here in all candor and say that it is not possible, because we do know that there have been innocent people executed, and that's regrettable. Just as in war, nonparticipants have died, that