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LB 44

might want to...I might want to get off this bill because it would be too controversial. Well, that's an old ploy. He doesn't always get off of a bill. He likes to stay as the sponsor in control. I didn't take that sucker offer, so to speak. So I'll remain the sponsor of this bill. The two criminal penalties that need to be enhanced need to be enhanced. We'll see what happens to the amendment. But it's really interesting to me when law enforcement people call a press conference, attack a member of the body, don't have the facts, and when they're then confronted by the media with the fact that they are wrong, that they don't know what they're talking about, their suggestion is, well, Brashear should pull the bill. Pull the bill that's going to correct an error in the statute that provides an increased criminal penalty? This seems like too much fear of a discussion. So, in my judgment, let the discussion go forward. Find out if you want your civil forfeitures going through the...going...routed through the federal government for the sole purpose of allowing law enforcement agencies to get more money back,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: ...your constitution to not be complied with, and the schools to get none of the monies that you said they would get. That's what the discussion is about. It's a legitimate discussion for this group of citizens, assembled on behalf of all the people, to the people's will, as it's written in the constitution and specified in the statutes. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Brashear. Senator Engel, on the Chambers amendment to LB 44.

SENATOR ENGEL: I yield my time to Senator Brashear. I believe he is venting his spleen; I'd like to hear more of it. (Laughter)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. President, members of the body, thank you very much. Thank you, Senator Engel, but for right now, I think