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low-risk offenders can be harmful. Oversupervising may increase a likelihood for failure. We also heard information on the length of time that we have to work with people who are in our criminal justice system. I won't belabor the juvenile justice issues other than to say that we know that 75 to 85 percent of the kids who come into the system have issues with substance abuse and we need to be addressing those issues. But let me give you some information about the adult system. Fifty percent of offenders released to parole were in prison only 7 to 12 months prior to their release to parole. Seventy-seven percent of those released to parole were on supervision for 7 to 12 months. And of those offenders not released to parole, 68 percent served a term of 19 to 24 months. The issue of treatment effectiveness is critical because, though all the agencies represented in this initiative have access to good treatment programs, that effectiveness is less than optimal. We need to be able to track people through the system. We need to, as Senator Pedersen said and as you heard last summer, make sure we aren't doing the same assessments over and over. He and Senator Brashear went over the duties of this task force to develop some assessment tools to address that fragmentation, to manage our information better and be more effective. So we can meet two very important policy goals by establishing this group, who are largely state employees, and as a result of that their expenses to serve on this commission are different than if we had to create one with a lot of people outside the system. That could be part of their own budgets. But, by doing this, we have the opportunity to do a better job for people so that they can get beyond some of these issues that are causing them to engage in criminal behavior and, second, there are potential of tremendous cost savings through efficiencies and through more effectiveness of our treatment. Thank you, and thank you, Senator Pedersen.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: (Visitors introduced.) Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, first amendment to the committee amendment, Senator Hilgert. But, Senator, I have a note you'd like to withdraw at this time.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: It is withdrawn.