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a...kind of a drug court situation is not having on your record a conviction for drug usage, illegal drug usage. And you had commented, Senator, that some of these programs are post-adjudication, after you're found convicted. Can you help enlighten me on what the benefit is?

SENATOR AGUILAR: That's right. The way that works, Senator, is, first of all, to go back to the beginning, the defendant or participant has to plead guilty. Once they plead guilty and they are admitted into the program, they follow the rules and they go through it for 18 months, or whatever the specific time frame is, they go to a graduation process. When they graduate, they have...their charge is expunged, just drops from their record. And that's another one of the beauties of this. You know, somebody can make a mistake in their life by choosing to use drugs. But then they have the opportunity to make it go away, if you will, by cleaning up their act.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Okay. This isn't uniform, though, right, Senator? Because I know Douglas County does it a bit differently. It's not post-conviction, it's a true diversion program, from my workings with that program.

SENATOR AGUILAR: You're referring to the Douglas County Drug Court, which is indeed a true diversion program. The other courts aren't set up quite that way.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Which, on the Douglas County scheme, the charge is dismissed. Now, I'm not an attorney. But from what I understand, the judiciary, the judges cannot expunge or vacate a judicial sentence. How do these other jurisdictions get away with that constitutionally?

SENATOR AGUILAR: You're asking me a legal question, and I can't answer. But I will find an answer for you.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Okay. Senator Aguilar, it appears that Cheyenne, Douglas, Lancaster, and central Nebraska have different procedures, different schemes, different approaches, and from everything I've heard, that they are successful. I know Douglas County appears, anyway, to be successful. How will