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Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

April 14, 2003      LB 454

of the Legislature, when we create an indefinite sentence, we don't just say the judge can put this person in jail for however long he or she chooses. We place a minimum and we place a maximum. Then, depending on the circumstances of the crime, the individual characteristics of the perpetrator, within that range, the judge can set a sentence. And even then, sometimes an argument can be made that there has been an abuse of discretion, even when the sentence was within the range, if a particular judge does not go above a certain amount, but you can show that in this particular defendant's case, because of race, sexual orientation, or some other factor, a higher sentence was given in that range than ordinarily is given, an appeal may be successful. But we put a maximum and a minimum. We also have provided what will happen if a judge enters a flat sentence and says, you will serve whatever the number of years is. The minimum sentence is automatically presumed. And because of a change in the law, it's 50 percent of what the maximum is. So we don't just put words in the statute. We could not pass a criminal statute and have it stand muster by saying, if Senator Byars picks up a book and hurls it across the room at Senator Chambers, and his aim is accurate if he had been throwing at Senator Tyson, because he hits Senator Tyson upside the head, and for committing that assault, Senator Byars shall be sentenced to a short term in jail. That's unconstitutional. You cannot do that.

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You have to be specific. Although what I would say is that he should serve no time in jail, except that he was throwing it at me. (Laugh) Anyway, you can see that there are problems with this bill. And when I can pin Senator Aguilar down and stop him from dancing as nimbly as a sore-footed cheetah on a red-hot griddle, then he will concede the truth of what I'm suggesting. This bill is not a good bill. Policy-wise it is not good. Drafting-wise it is not good. I had told Senator Aguilar I would work with him on this bill. But it popped up here sooner than I anticipated, so it has to be done in this manner. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Chambers (Visitors