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FLOOR DEBATE

April 14, 2003      LB 454

application. And then they go before this board. The board considers them. And then if they are accepted, they have to sign a contract.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: And...

SENATOR AGUILAR: And that contract specifically says that if you violate the rules that there will be sanctions, anywhere from extended counseling, more frequent drug tests, and as a last result, two or three days in jail.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: So they do know then when they sign the contract there may be a possibility of jail time if they are not responsive in some way?

SENATOR AGUILAR: Absolutely. And they are in no way forced to sign that contract. It is specifically of their free will. They are voluntarily asking to join this program so that they can get the help they need that they cannot get in jail.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Okay. And when you and I talked a minute ago, I wanted to clarify that. But now I'm wondering... I know that these are oftentimes meth users and hard to break addiction kind of drug users. And so I realize you got to have a tough program, a tough and good program, to deal with them. But I guess I'm going back to the fact now that they haven't necessarily been found guilty by a court. And yet again, coming back to the fact that we're able to sentence them to a day or two or three in jail. And I'm not sure we can do that. I'm really struggling with this, Senator Aguilar, because I want to be supportive.

SENATOR AGUILAR: Well, first of all, I'd start off by saying, number one, they have pleaded guilty.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, I know, but...

SENATOR AGUILAR: They haven't been sentenced, but...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...that's not the same thing.