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SENATOR CHAMBERS: That same book says, all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. So if religion means anything, should it not come into play when we have the opportunity to adopt a policy of forgiveness, not one which says you will not pay the full price for your wrong? But after you've paid the full price, we could not even call it forgiveness to restore the right to vote, because you're not decreasing the punishment, you're not relieving any of the punishment. The person went through all of it. And on top of it, we're adding an additional two years of deprivation. So this bill is not unreasonable at all, except by adding the amendment, in my opinion. But I'm going to support the amendment and the bill. And I hope it moves on to become law.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Aguilar's time has expired. Senator Chambers, you're recognized.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I may not use the full five minutes, because there may be others who do want to speak on this issue, and there's not much more that I can add. And Senator Smith, if you're interested in the case where the Nebraska Supreme Court stated that the Legislature has the power to do this, and cited the very statute that is being amended as the one that sets the terms for the restoration of an ex-felon's voting rights, I will give that to you when we get through. But I don't want to take the time right this minute. I have a copy of it on my desk, and I'll be glad to share that with you. The philosophy and the policy is what I think most people are looking at. And from what I have heard, there is a strong inclination to allow people And what I would like to see to recover the right to vote. happen--because I know a lot of felons, and I know a lot of people who would be felons if, as Senator Dwite Pedersen pointed out, they had gotten caught. We have people who have been in public office, committed 12 violations, and could have been convicted of a felony, I believe, but the Attorney General, showing mercy, collapsed them all into one charge, the weakest one of all, and let the person get probation. But there are a lot of people out at that penitentiary who may have written a series of bad checks that were aggregated to an amount that made it a felony. Somebody could have damaged property.