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April 26, 2005 LB 117

CLERK: Okay. The second component, Mr. President, will consist of lines 20 through 25 on page 15. That would be FA189. Third component will be FA190. That will consist of lines 11 through 13 on page 17. FA191 will be lines 14 through 18 on page 17. FA192 will be lines 19 and 20 on page 17. FA193 will be lines 21 through 23 on page 17. And the final component, Mr. President, will be FA194, consisting of lines 7 through 13 on page 18. So, Mr. President, the first amendment pending is Judiciary Committee amendment, FA188. (Legislative Journal page 1301.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk, for reading that to the body. Senator Bourne, you're recognized to open on FA188. Sorry for that, Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President. Members, bear with us. This is kind of confusing, particularly when you divide in this manner. There's a lot of divisions, but hopefully we can...we can get through this without a lot of confusion. I want to say a couple things up-front. Sometimes when Senator Chambers goes after a bill it, quite honestly, annoys the heck out of me; other times when he does it there's some value. in this situation I think there's a lot of value to asking questions, to dividing this, to discussing each component of the committee amendment which, of course, will become the bill, should you choose to do so. There's a real value in this. This is a significant piece of legislation and it represents a change. Does it impact law-abiding citizens? Unfortunately, it does. But, on the other hand, when you look at the ills and the societal harms caused by methamphetamine, I think it's entirely justifiable. And I think Senator Chambers knows and understands if...he and I have worked together...he knows that I'm not about enhancing penalties and being punitive for the sake of doing so. I think this is a bill that makes sense. I will also tell you that even though law enforcement did draft the original version of it and they were involved in the committee amendment, which is the bill or will become the bill, they did not drive this. They had input, which is what they're entitled to do and, quite frankly, we should rely on them for that input because they have expertise. But this is the Judiciary Committee's solution to