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LB 538

beyond that, on the human level, offering some of these individuals that are confronting addictions some real, true, bona fide hope in the sense of truly turning their life around so that they're not confronted with the recidivism issues that we often associate with those addicted to drugs. Also, Senator Brown, I, too, want to echo your thoughts relative to the provisions within the committee amendment, relative to helping to statutorily protect to a little bit of a further degree our probation officers. The unfortunate reality of the day we live in and the more...as we expand the scope of those that are put on probation these days, you know, unfortunately that's a reality that we're dealing with a population sometimes that the safety of the officer is of paramount concern. And I was in the probation office for 12 years and I was not aware of one assault on an officer, but in the last two or three years, unfortunately, we have experienced a series of assaults against our probation officers. I might remind members that our probation officers are not armed. They do not carry any weapons whatsoever except for the tear gas type of armament. But I, too, Senator Brown, am quite pleased that the Legislature is recognizing in statute of the peculiar dangers that are associated with probation work in our state. Thank you, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Synowiecki. Further discussion? Seeing none, Senator Brashear, you're recognized to close on advancement of LB 538.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. If I were to begin thanking people individually within and outside the body, the list would be too long. I'm not going to do that. I just want to thank the body for the creation of the Community Corrections program and the adoption of the Community Corrections Act. This is the best collaborative effort of my experience within state government. I'm talking outside the body and other than a committee. But this is a collaborative effort that draws from many different sectors of our society and it is working. Thank you. I'd urge the advancement of the bill.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brashear. You've heard