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LB 57

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, for myself, I don't think I can predict how a prosecutor would react, but...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: So it could be any of them?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I think it could be any of them, but I suspect that in the end they would readily plea bargain down to a much lower offense.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. I have a list of punishments and I think it's up to date, but I won't guarantee it, but a misdemeanor or, I'm sorry, a Class III felony is a maximum of 25 years imprisonment or \$25,000 fine, or both, or a minimum of 1 year in prison. A misdemeanor, a Class I...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...misdemeanor is a maximum of not more than one year imprisonment or \$1,000 fine, or both, and a minimum of none. My question is, is this really helpful? I...is this helpful to the woman who's pregnant or to the child itself? And will you even know until later on whether the child had serious bodily injury or not? I guess I like Senator Foley's comments regarding Senator Howard's approach. I think it's important to see that there's some kind of treatment here and not prosecution, and I feel very strongly about that. I don't think it would be very helpful to put the woman in prison or to put some kind of a fine on her at this time.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Beutler, followed by Senator Chambers, Senator Howard, Senator Pedersen, and Senator Foley.

SENATOR BEUTLER: This amendment suffers the classic abortion debate problem. Nobody is willing to come together. There are lots of good statements that have been made so far about the