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LB 925

productivity, because of how essential a driver's license is in our society these days. So it's a fundamental public policy decision that you need to make relative to LB 925. I agree with Senator Pedersen, LB 925 is not going to stop drunk driving. What is going to stop drunk driving is a public policy that makes sense, that gives individuals an opportunity to correct and rectify their behaviors. Some won't. Some won't, quite frankly. Some will come before the court for a drunk driving third offense. And I have recommended to courts, I have recommended as a probation officer, that they go to jail and that they lose their license for 15 years. I have provided that recommendation because I didn't think that the individuals were sincere and that they were not embarking...that they were embarking on what they were doing in terms of preparing for a court hearing, were false, and they were not genuine in their efforts to rehabilitate themselves. But on the other hand, there have been instances where individuals have instituted profound life changes because of that heavy-handed, that 15-year license suspension. We give them opportunity, at least we give them an opportunity now, to embark on a life-changing path and to embark on treatment and recovery. And if they don't succeed, they come back to court, they get a straight sentence, and they lose their license for 15 years. What we're pulling away is a tool within the criminal justice system, a tool for treatment counselors that is used to motivate individuals to subject themselves to coerced treatment. And when we remove that, I'm afraid what we're going to have is an increased prevalence of individuals driving on that 15-year license suspension. And if they don't subject themselves to recovery and the treatment modalities, unfortunately, I think we're going to have an enhanced level or enhanced propensity of individuals driving intoxicated during that 15-year license suspension. Thank you, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator. On with discussion, Senator Redfield, followed by Senator Bourne.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I do not rise in opposition to the bill. I do rise, however, in disappointment that in this modern age we are not using technology to prevent the injuries, the death, and the