

they don't even understand, cannot answer a question. It is too serious for me to sit back and say, I'm going to let it happen because somebody new is carrying water for the Attorney General. I was appalled when I saw him playing politics with the family of a victim giving an award, hoping that it will help him in his case against Willie Otey facing the death sentence. He has squeezed every bit of publicity that he can get out of this family. He parades them around. He brings them to press conferences. They are his props and to me, that is reprehensible but he can do whatever he wants to because he is an elected official, and if that's the level at which he operates, fine, but I'm going to call it the way that it is.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And when that kind of action is brought into this Legislature by one of our members, I'm going to oppose it. I'm going to fight it. And I'll do everything to make sure that 627 does not move an inch further from where it is now. It has material dealing with community corrections, has material dealing with boot camps. If those who think those are good concepts are willing to let them go by the boards, makes no difference to me, but I'm going to try to keep the system from being skewed any more than it is already.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I would just like to kind of clear up. If you will look at the old language, all sentences on page 2 at the top of the page, and this is old language, we are saying that all sentences of imprisonment for Class IA, IB, IC, ID second and third felonies and sentences of one year or more...well...deals with just those that are referred to in the new language. And those are felonies that we have judged to be of such a serious nature that indeed other Legislatures have imposed a mandatory minimum. We don't do that very often in our statutes. But in those that do have a mandatory minimum sentence, what Senator Witek is trying to do is to say that those are such serious crimes that if indeed you are convicted of a felony, you shall not be eligible for probation. Now what are some of those? Class IA felonies are murder in the first degree, kidnapping, using explosives to damage or destroy property if death results, using explosives to kill or injure any person if death results. Class IB felony is murder in the second degree. Class IC felony is knowingly or