

explained based on that I am entitled to improve and expand the scope of the language, which is what I have just done by coining the term "lessest".

SENATOR HOHENSTEIN: Well, I would like to unchristen you at this time, Senator Chambers. Let me ask another question, you have, with your amendment, changed the "upperest" part of the Class IC and ID and II felonies, correct?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, but in this case I think you should say uppermost.

SENATOR HOHENSTEIN: Okay, why did you not consider the Class IA and IB? They also have an upper penalty of life in prison.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, Senator Hohenstein, what I wanted to do was deal with those that are going to be touched on by the thrust of the bill. However, I do have another amendment that's going to deal with the topmost offense and crime.

SENATOR HOHENSTEIN: You have, however, considered a Class II felony, and my understanding, that is not a mandatory minimum. Your amendment does change the Class II from a maximum of fifty to thirty, but that is not one of the mandatory minimums. Just correct me, if I'm wrong, you have, basically, overincluded if your intent was to deal only with the mandatory minimums, is that correct?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, well, Senator Hohenstein, what you did was in being chivalrous paid attention to what Senator Witek said when she tried to characterize my amendment. I am not dealing with mandatory minimums at all in this amendment. I am dealing only with the maximum sentences for these three classes, all of which are fifty years.

SENATOR HOHENSTEIN: Okay, I, all kidding aside, I would rise in opposition to the Chambers amendment, although I think there is some genuine understanding that there may be some distinctions. And the thing that I want to point out is that we haven't had a lot of discussion on mandatory minimums and minimums and they aren't the same thing. There are two mandatory minimum offenses. Senator Chambers' last amendment attempted to strike the mandatory minimum language and make them I guess not mandatory minimums, but that is something the Legislature did a couple of years ago with just the two offenses. The thing that