

SENATOR WITEK: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I rise in support of the Bromm amendment. As he...as he so...he says much better than I do, we do need to carry this bill over. We do need...if you want more information, we can have an interim study on it. We didn't intend to have boot camps up and operable at the end of this year, or any time soon anyway. I think our intention with the original bill was to go ahead and get the enabling language in there, but still to do a lot of studying on it and determine what would...what exactly we would be doing in this state, same thing with community corrections. So we do need at least, I believe they wanted two years, even in the original 627, to look at this, those issues. And those were the expensive parts of the bill. Originally people didn't want...I mean if we can go back to the beginning of 627, people were saying, well the expense, the cost, those were the expense and cost of this bill. These other provisions that we have been trying to put back in are not expensive. They are wanted and needed in the State of Nebraska, as many people involved in law enforcement have stated. It's...it's not too difficult to understand what's happened with this bill and why things are the way they are. The bill was blocked from the beginning from one person. When Senator Abboud says that Senator Chambers didn't want boot camps and now he's taken a big turn around, I...I guess it is maybe because this is my first year, and maybe Senator Chambers is right that I don't understand the workings of the Legislature as a quote, unquote, rookie. But I don't consider myself a rookie. Yes, I am new to the Legislature, but I was elected, just as he was, just as all of you were, to represent the people in our district. This isn't a corporate structure where one has more pull than the other. As I can see it we each are elected to represent the 32,000 in our district, and that's what I'm trying to do, and I'm sure many of you would like to do. These are the people who want these provisions. How many times do you hear about crime? Peter Hoagland did a...Senator Withem, you, yourself, were there when Peter Hoagland said his number one priority was to deal with crime. Here's your opportunity, you know, to deal with crime. This is at the federal level. This is something we all talk about, this is something as citizens we talk about to each other, this is something we talk about to our constituents about doing something about the rising level of crime, et cetera, and yet we have an opportunity to do it and we can't get to it, and it's not because we don't believe in these provisions, it's not cause we don't want it, it's not because a whole long list of people