

extreme indifference to the Bromm amendment. At this point it makes little or no difference to the body whether the Bromm amendment is adopted or whether the Withem amendment is ultimately accepted or not accepted, because we are now in the position where I believe Senator Bernard-Stevens, rather accurately, described it for us that our choices are we either reach some sort of a consensus, procedurally, on how to proceed with action on the bill at this particular point, at three o'clock in the afternoon, or we wait until five o'clock and do it at five o'clock. I think that's what we're down to. Two hours of time can be precious. There will be a day, on our 87th or 88th day when we wish we had two hours as the last bill doesn't get considered. But it's apparent that's not of grave concern at this particular point, so it doesn't make a lot of difference. I had offered the bracket motion in good faith, thinking it would be a way for us to move on to another issue where there was a better possibility of the Legislature acting. It's apparent that the body does not choose to do that, so I'm content to let this particular motion, the Bromm motion and the Withem motion proceed further down the road. I guess I would make one comment though on the process, because Senator Witek has enjoyed, very much, the role that anybody who has sat home and watched the Legislature over the years has dreamed of having, and that's is standing on the floor and going toe-to-toe with Ernie Chambers, and in her own mind thinking that she's bested him. I don't think that is...is the issue. I think the issue is do we pass decent legislation or don't we. Senator Pedersen made the point, a valid point, of what we're about here in most cases is compromise. I would say, on issues particularly like this one, it's coming to consensus. I'd invite you to look back through the history of this bill and see whether or not you think the Legislature has acted responsibly or irresponsibly. Senator Witek would have you believe that the Legislature has acted irresponsibly on this measure. We had a bill brought to the Judiciary Committee. The Judiciary Committee heard the bill. The Judiciary Committee adopted amendments, taking a number of the more controversial portions of the bill out and sending it onto the floor of the Legislature on a five to two vote. Then on General File, with a 28 to nothing vote, I don't know because it is not a record vote, I don't know where Senator Witek was that day when that vote was taken. But a 28 to nothing vote, every provisions of the bill, other than the boot camp, was stripped out of the bill. Senator Ashford offered a bill on community corrections...an amendment on community corrections. The bill was then advanced. We now