

my opinion. As far as the process, even before Senator Witek got here, I've been criticized by somebody or a group of somebody's every session. Those who've done it know that it's not going to have any impact on me, but I feel it's therapeutic for them. It's therapeutic for them. They feel better, they get it out of their system, they dry their powder, they settle down, and then we can get back to the business of trying to legislate. Every assembly such as this has to have somebody whom they can personalize as the villain and vent their spleen. And it takes a strong, understanding, forgiving soul, a whole soul to be that target. And in the interest of trying to get good legislation, I don't mind being that one cause it doesn't hurt me. This bill has been debated almost the amount of time necessary for us to get a vote. Those 42 people who signed on for the study believed at the time they signed onto that provision, which I did not sign onto, that it would be a way for us to get to a position where the bill could be moved. And we are just about there now. So it doesn't matter whether we carry on the discussion, in the way that we are, to these motions to bracket, and amendments to those motion...that motion, or by considering amendments to the bill itself, none of which will be adopted, but which will serve to point out how poorly drafted the bill was. One of the senators mentioned something about drug free school zones. I know Senator Hillman had an amendment dealing with that. But I'll tell you why that always seemed to be the backward way of dealing with it. I had presumed that we wanted school zones to be drug free because we were trying to protect children. So why do we sanctify a location and say that if that child is sold any amount of drugs a foot out of a school zone, it's not that bad. But if two drug...if two junkies sell...one sells drugs to the other in a school zone, they get the book thrown at them. If you're trying to protect children, why not draft legislation that goes to that purpose, if that's what it is.

SENATOR HALL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The school building should not be what we're trying to protect. The environs are not what we're trying to protect. These things exist for the benefit of children. And if we know that children are going to be there and the children are the ones we're trying to protect are we saying that once a child leaves the school zone area that child no longer is worthy of our protection? This is a backward proposition, and it came into being because Reagan and Bush were trying to grab headlines