

SENATOR CROSBY PRESIDING

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I will not apologize. I will not retreat from it. They didn't deserve the money in the first place, and the Legislature, by doing what it did, gave me the excuse that I needed. I cannot believe that is what Ben Nelson is about. He certainly could not be considered Gentle Ben, not even Gentleman Ben, if that is, in fact, what he is. But this is a test, not only of the Governor's morality, but of ours. We have done those things which we said were very important, and I hope there will be the will in this Legislature, because I don't think it takes courage, to vote to override this veto.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Pedersen.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Madam President, and members of the Legislature, first of all, without any kind of boast whatsoever, I need to give myself a little bit of credibility. So what you hear from me comes from the heart, and you know that it isn't made up. It was thirty years ago that I went to work as a probation officer, one day a week, to volunteer for Judge Hart in juvenile court in Omaha. And since that time I have worked with mostly young people, not as a probation officer, but in and out of working with young people, and have had to work with a lot of probation officers. The beginning of this session we had a couple bills that were very important, it's the year of the crime, take care of crime. We have the adult crime bill, which absolutely, as you know, went nowhere, and we had the adolescent crime bill. But neither one of these bills addressed anything for probation officers. So there was a bill that came through that would give the probation officers a raise in salary, and that bill was later amended into the appropriations bill, and amended into another bill that we'll probably consider this afternoon if this veto override doesn't work. It never dawned on me that the Governor would veto this bill in the year of the crime. This is what happens when we have our so called crime summit made up of people who have not worked in this area. The crime bills didn't include those, and not just me, but probation officers, people from corrections, people who understand the people who commit crimes, and what can be done with them to change them and turn them around. They weren't included. We only included those for political reasons wanted to get somewhere. Without a doubt it's ended up that it obviously has