

ought to be punishing people. But I suggest to you that when a judge sentences somebody to jail they don't say, well, it's a year, boy, I hope they don't get six months good time. They read these statutes. When they do the truth in sentencing, which, by the way, has been used incorrectly several times today. Truth in sentencing refers to telling people what the sentence is, it doesn't refer to what the sentence is. And every time somebody is sentenced on a felony, they got to tell them what that's going to be, meaning the judge, before he imposes a sentence, says, you will serve X number of days after your good time is taken into consideration. The judge knows what sentence that person is going to serve, they know how many days that person is going to serve. And if the person acts up, they're going to get more days than the judge thought they'd serve. There's a lot of misinformation that goes out on this stuff, it's become much more controversial than I thought it. It's a matter of what is happening every day in each of your counties. A Class IV felony, which this body, the Legislature said a Class IV felony is a more serious offense than a Class I misdemeanor, we've said that. It ain't happening out in the counties. Any day you can look to county courthouses and find people getting sentenced to a year for a Class IV felony...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR LINDSAY: ...and just under a year for a Class I misdemeanor. The misdemeanant is going to serve more time. County time is hard time. If you talk to people who serve county time, it's hard time anyway. And that time, they're serving more of it. We hear...I know there's been objections from MADD mothers about it. This is not going to take away that 48 hour minimum, or whatever, it's not going to impact that. Yeah, it will on some of the higher sentences, but the judges know how much time they're giving, and they will give more time, if that's what's needed to correct the individual. I, like I say, I still think it's something we got to look at, and I'll push it to a vote. I guess I don't know where the votes will go on it, but if not, we will stay with the current system which says you may do a misdemeanor, but that's a little bit worse than doing a felony.

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

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I stand before you only to give you a little insight of where I