

by special interest groups, with reference to a particular piece of legislation. My overall attitude is that we should try and help people who run afoul of the law, not lock them away and punish them as severely as we can. I am for this bill and I hope that you will be for it too.

PRESIDENT: Next to speak is Senator Nore. Now let's make it clear once again. Actually, the thing that we are debating here at this time is the Richendifer amendment to the committee amendments, which changes the language from a thousand dollars to three hundred dollars, and I would like to try and point the debate in that direction if I could, but I realize that it is difficult to separate this amendment from the content of the bill, but let's try and confine our remarks to the Richendifer amendment, because I have to dispose of that before we can move on to the committee amendments before we can dispose of the bill. Senator Nore?

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President and fellow members, I, if I had to compromise, I would favor the Richendifer amendment to three hundred dollars from a thousand, but I am going to vote for leaving it as it is and try to kill the bill. Now, check writing is a habit, it is something like it is a disease, it is sort of like a kleptomaniac, and a lot of these folks. We had one in our security house one time and he was quite wealthy, and we lost something and we went to his room and picked it up, and one time we visited, I think it was the rotary club in York, Nebraska, I happened to make up down there we went to the women's reformatory, and we asked the matron, the mother there, what was the most difficult crime to stop and she said check writing. Just the day before, she had released a woman, a young girl, that had been in the reformatory at York, this has been several years ago so I am not being personal on this, and she said to the girl, now you won't write any more bad checks and the girl said now mother, this is the easiest money that I have ever made. She wasn't about to stop writing checks, it is, she said that it is almost impossible to cure. She said that it is much easier to cure folks from dope, and from other crimes, so I think here one of the things here, for instance capital punishment, there is only one thing that a murderer fears and that is death. He doesn't mind too much about going to the penitentiary, but he does fear death and so I don't want to get off of the subject, it might be the same way with check writing. But I do think that when we get our new diagnostic center and our work release program going, we can take care of that 12½% at the reformatory and some of them we can rehabilitate which we are not doing now, so I would hope that we could leave it at \$75. Now, Senator Chambers says that the bank doesn't pay any interest on these deposits. My bank, they pay you interest but they have a check charge, so they are really paying interest on the money. If you have so much money in the bank, you don't pay for expense for doing business in the bank, so they do really pay interest, and then now the problem checks, it is our way of doing business, Senator Kelly said that, who would be foolish enough to be lugging around, especially in some parts of some of our cities with ten or fifteen thousand dollars in cash, you would have to have a body guard because you would get robbed. It is bad enough as it is, so checks is one of the most convenient ways of doing business and it is one of the greatest expeditors of business, it is the most efficient way of doing business and if we raise this thing up to a thousand dollars, why I predict that it will be kaos and everybody will be wondering why did you do that.

PRESIDENT: Senator Luedtke, you were next to speak here, and we are still on the Richendifer amendment.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: I think that I will reserve my remarks for the bill in general and I have some questions of some of these speakers, but I will wait until we get on the bill in general.