

closer to what is actually going to happen and certainly gives the judge more than adequate discretion in arriving at an appropriate sentence. So, once again, this is not a major amendment. It is not all that important, but I think in terms of attempting to maintain some uniformity in our sentencing structure and to maintain that sentencing structure reasonable, it would not make sense to increase the penalties to that extent. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins, yours is the only other light that is on. Did you want to close, or did you want speaking time in addition to your closing?

SENATOR HIGGINS: Since I have two other amendments that would amend the committee amendments, I would close just in response to Senator Hoagland's comments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: All right. Okay.

SENATOR HIGGINS: First of all, Senator Hoagland said this was the Judiciary Committee's decision. I don't know as all the Judiciary Committee members will vote against this amendment of mine. But if it was the Judiciary Committee's decision to reduce the penalties, what is in the present laws, I wonder why the Judiciary Committee never introduced a bill before to change the penalties for pornography. Remember, this bill does not in any way touch adult pornography. We are dealing with nothing but children, little boys and little girls. Senator Hoagland has said this will make no difference to a judge whether or not there is a one year to 25 years, or one year to 50 years. If you read the bill and the definition of sexually explicit acts, are you going to agree that a judge is going to do as Senator Hoagland says, not follow what is in the law as a guideline, that they would not give at least one year minimum if that is already in the law as a guideline? Remember, we are talking about forcing children into sexually explicit acts. To be more explicit let me tell you some of the pornography we are talking about. We are talking about little children being forced into sexual acts with older men and older women. We are talking about little children being forced into sexual acts with other little children. I think it would be a disgrace, and I think it is a shameful thing to think that any judge who would have before him a man or a woman who induced a child to do these things, who made such movies or pictures, or distributed