

and I'll come back and I'll erase these perversions of the law. But it is regrettable that it's necessary. I'm asking that you adopt that amendment which says once restitution has been ordered there should be no civil action allowed for damages.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, I didn't really get a chance to...I had a few more statements to make prior to the question being called on the first amendment, so I'm going to try to tie the two statements I'm going to add, I'm going to talk about this amendment for a short time and then move on to the general philosophy of this bill as it has become. I think the point that Senator Chambers is attempting to make is that we have two areas of the law. We have a civil area to take care of monetary damages and we have a criminal area that takes care of individuals that commits crimes against the state, meaning that if an individual is assaulted or if an individual is raped or if an individual is murdered and the state sees this as wrong and then they prosecute that individual and send them to prison. Now what this bill has become, according to my viewpoint, and I don't know if that is shared by Senator Chambers, he may have a different reason for opposing LB 956 at this time, but my viewpoint is that this is just a soft on crime bill in the fact that if a person commits a crime, I feel that he should do the time. If an individual rapes another individual, then that individual should not be allowed to leave prison one day, one hour, one minute earlier than what the judge says that he should leave. Just because he has a little bit of money and can buy his way out of prison, I don't feel that that is proper. I think an individual, when he commits a crime, he should understand the full repercussions of it, and if that involves staying in prison for years, then that individual will in fact have to stay in prison for years. Now Senator Chambers I think is arguing more of a philosophical viewpoint on the matter in the fact that he sees the perversion, or the mulling together of the criminal and civil branch of the law and I think those are commendable reasons to oppose this bill. But my viewpoints on this matter are different, and that is that I just don't normally vote for legislation that helps criminals. I think a criminal, if he commits a crime, he should be punished fully to the full extent of the law. And with that, I don't know if I'm going to be supporting this