

there cannot be a conviction. If a child is put into a position to be sexually abused, as defined in the statute, and cannot provide corroboration of that abuse, no conviction can be obtained under the laws of this state against the perpetrator. So what the law would say, if you don't adopt this amendment, is that any child 14 and under who is abused and cannot provide corroboration has no recourse in the courts of this state. And I hope you will disregard all the other agreements and let those people who have agreed, argue between and among themselves, but look at what it is we're doing with this law and vote for this amendment which would remove the language that would make our children a vulnerable class and would immunize those who would attack them and be smart enough, cagey enough, cunning enough, foresightful enough to create a set of circumstances where corroboration will not be there. Then they can ply their trade with immunity.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, and the question before the body is the adoption of the Chambers amendment to LB 443. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senators Chambers' and Wesely's amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The amendment is adopted. Anything further?

CLERK: Nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Robak or Senator Kristensen, would you care to discuss the bill further? Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. I was assuming that the body was going to do what they did to Senator Crosby, and right before you record that vote all those were going to turn from green to red but, with that not happening, I would urge that this bill be moved along. I don't enjoy the amendment. I don't think it served a purpose but that is not the issue before us. Right now, the corroboration rule is an embarrassment to this state and it is an embarrassment to a whole class of people and most of them are women who have been told that they don't have any credibility because they are a victim of sexual assault and in any other crime they have that and, based upon that, I think we should advance this on to E & R Initial.