SENATOR CHAMBERS:  Oh, sure.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS:  Okay.  Under the....Senator Chambers, you are absolutely correct in many areas  of  what  you've  just said.    There  are  a  couple of areas that I feel that you are incorrect.    What    this    amendment    would    change,    the amendment...the  Pirsch  amendment  to LB 330, under the current law on domestic abuse that was passed  sessions  ago,  it  would permit  peace officers to intervene at an earlier time than they could under existing law because under existing law it  requires a  reasonable  belief  that a felony or misdemeanor had actually been committed, had actually been committed.  But when you  walk into  a home and the gentleman or lady who has done the violence has made a 180 degree total change in  personality,  you  cannot tell,  in  many  instances,  whether a misdemeanor or felony has been committed.   This amendment would simply say  it  is  also within  the discretion of the police officers to say if there is a threatening manner, and as the amendment goes on  to  say,  if they reasonably believe that there is a possibility of that, and I understand that is vague,...

SENATOR CHAMBERS:  Okay, let...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS:   ...I understand that.

SENATOR  CHAMBERS:    Now let us go on.  Here's what I'm telling you, that line about  the  threatening  manner  is  currently  a misdemeanor.    That  is  a  misdemeanor  under  the  current law. Under the assault statutes threatening  another  in  a  menacing manner  is  a  misdemeanor now.   So, if that is the law now and that would justify an arrest now,  and  all  your  amendment  is doing is saying the same thing over here, what have you added to the  law?  Nothing.  LB 218 was a poorly...it was an ill-advised bill, it was unnecessary.  This amendment is unnecessary.    And when  Senator  Bernard-Stevens gets his time, he will be able to go into greater detail as to why the Legislature should  pass  a law to say what the law already clearly says.

SPEAKER BARRETT PRESIDING

SPEAKER BARRETT:  One minute.

SENATOR  CHAMBERS:    Officers are still going to be reluctant in the absence of the protective order, that's separate  from  what