

I'm talking about, in the absence of the protective order, no appearance of anything having been done wrong an officer now is going to be reluctant to make an arrest. And with this language being put in this bill, which is just a restatement of what already is in the law, the officer is still going to be reluctant, and the officer still does not have to make an arrest. But what is going to happen is that the Legislature will engage in deception to mislead the public and give the impression that a kind of protection is being put into the law with the enactment of this legislation, which is not the case. The law will not be changed, and I stand on that.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Before proceeding to Senator Bernard-Stevens, followed by Senator Pirsch, the Chair is pleased to announce some very special guests of Lieutenant Governor Bill and Ruth Nichol from Japan. A very special guest, Yumiko Yokomichi, who is the wife of the Governor of Hokkaido, and also a person very active as a leader of the Women's Volunteer Associations for Handicapped and Senior Citizens. Please take a bow, Yumiko Yokomichi. Also traveling with Yumiko is Hisako Sato MacQueen, Conference Interpreter. Hisako, please take a bow. Thank you. We're delighted to have you as our guests this morning. Thank you for coming. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. President. I always enjoy, though I don't get to do it often enough, get into a colloquy or discussion with Senator Chambers. I always find it immensely stimulating. And once again Senator Chambers has brought up an important point, but if we're not careful, we carry the logic a little bit too far. I've always argued that Senator Chambers is very, very good at circular arguments, and if you try to attack in a linear argument, you get in trouble. So I'm going to try to continue with the circular arguments to see if we can come back around to where we should be and that is, even if in separate statutes of the State of Nebraska, there are what some people say clarifications, yes, you can, and over here it doesn't say particularly you can in another section of domestic violence, that is irrelevant when you get to the point of domestic violence. In the issue of domestic violence what we have, regardless of the reasons, regardless of the circumstances, law enforcement officials throughout the State of Nebraska are uncertain. They do not know whether they actually have the authority to arrest or not. Now if the statute is already there, then that statute obviously has been interpreted poorly and it is un...un...clearly vague. What this amendment