

the officer has reasonable cause to believe that such person, subsection (b), may cause injury to himself or herself or others or damage to property unless immediately arrested. If the officer under the current law thinks that there may be injury to a person, not that there has been injury already, but future, that there may be injury to a person, then he can make an arrest now even if the misdemeanor committed was not in his presence. And if that misdemeanor is threatening in a menacing manner, that is already in the law. But Senator Bernard-Stevens wants his bad legal advice to be incorporated into the law, so I'll tell you what I'm going to do. I think the amendment is poor. I'm going, at this point, Mr. Chairman, I'm going to withdraw my amendment and just discuss the Bernard-Stevens-Pirsch amendment, unamended by mine.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, it is withdrawn. Senator Langford. Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens, followed by Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. President. Let's see if we can circulate the argument back to its beginning premise. In fact, let's go ahead and assume for a minute Senator Chambers is correct, and he is correct in one area, in fact, he is correct in a lot of areas. The one area he is correct in is that when he quotes the statute stating that arrests can be made, that is true. That is within another statute elsewhere. But somehow I remember seeing many bills come across my desk in the last two years, and Senator Chambers, I'm sure, has seen more, and many times we have the bill drafters go in and clarify. They say, you know we have this statute over here in X, we want to go ahead and put that in here, too, because we have a lot of different areas that need to be covered. And I really don't see, I'm kind of puzzled in a way because on one side the argument is, you know, on another section of the codes elsewhere there is a section that says you can do that. Now it doesn't say it over here. It doesn't say that you can do it in the domestic abuse area, but if you put the two together, you certainly can, and it seems so reasonable, but obviously that is not being done out there. Either they are incapable of putting A and B together to come up with the proper arrests policy, B, they don't want to or, C, they feel that there is...they're uncomfortable because they feel there is a problem in doing so. I don't see any particular problem, personally, if we have something in another section that we can do, which we are doing, to put this in the domestic abuse section as well to clarify, to say, hey, in this domestic abuse section, we want you to know