

threatening another in a menacing manner, families are put in a position where they cannot possibly function anymore. I love peace, harmony, and tranquility, but families are not the places where you find these things. There could be an occasion where were somebody fortunate enough to be married to me, somebody is fortunate enough to not be married to me any longer, but that is a judgment call and somebody could deem that to be fortunate, either way, but in any case, maybe I, as easy to get along with as I am, could make what somebody would consider to be a threat in a menacing fashion. I could crinkle my brows, drum up my eyebrows right together at the bridge of my nose, and look fearsome, former Senator Nichol, so fearsome, in fact, that the one that I am piercing with that gaze could think that Judgment Day is about to descend, and that is the extent of it. To threaten somebody in a menacing manner, it doesn't say a threatening gesture, nothing. So since we are defining abuse, I don't think merely threatening in a menacing manner should be the definition for abuse. The current language that is being stricken that I want reinstated says that there has to be more than just a mere threat. There has to be a physical menace, and by that, we take it to mean the person who is doing the menacing is in a position to carry out whatever it is they are attempting to do, and there is fear of imminent serious bodily injury. So when we put fear in, we are talking about the way the one menaced perceives it. We have to require that the person who is facing the threat of injury perceives it as a threat and is put in fear. If my child, I don't have any three years old now, but if I had a three-year old child, and that child picked up a baseball bat and was as angry as a child that age could be, and using language, baby talk, to say to me what somebody 40 years old and in the Navy would say in a similar circumstance, came at me with a baseball bat, that would be threatening in a menacing manner. That would be abuse from that child to me, but I have no fear of it. The child cannot carry it out, so the definition does not fit that circumstance. I would hope that this bill is going to be crafted in such a fashion that it deals realistically and practically with the problems that people may face. If a person is, indeed, put in fear of receiving serious bodily injury and the one they fear is in a position to carry out the act that would lead to that bodily injury, then that could be taken as abuse. In neither case does any action have to occur that inflicts an injury. It puts the person in imminent peril of receiving the injury and that would remain a part of the definition of abuse. But since we are talking about a domestic situation, although I didn't raise my voice at my