

children very much, I don't think the mere raising of a voice is abuse. I never laid a violent or angry hand on my children, but there are other people who might believe in the laying on of hands in moderation, and that, in and of itself, would not be abuse. So I don't say that everybody has to view these things the way that I do, but when we are talking about a definition for the purpose of the law, and that definition will be utilized to convict people of crimes, then we should have a definition of conduct that is criminal, meaning something detrimental to the order of society, and I don't think that every threatening in a menacing manner should be considered abuse. There are some parents who by using a threat in a very menacing manner are able to avoid having to take the next step which is physical violence of some kind. So I wouldn't want to make threatening in a menacing manner the same thing as putting somebody in peril of receiving serious bodily injury. And the term "imminent" means right now. So I am hoping that you will adopt my amendment. I hope there are more people here now than when I started so that there will be enough to vote on this bill, but the amendment would be on page 4, in lines 1 and 3, I would strike the new or underlined matter and reinstate the language that is stricken.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Pirsch, please.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, this language was put in really to be consistent with the other language, both in the criminal statutes and in the first part. Senator Chambers does have a point and I think it is something that I will leave up to the body, quite frankly. This is under the domestic violence statutes, and while we thought that would be consistent with the present statute in another section, that was what it was intended to do, and again, as I say, this bill was written by, I hate to say, a consortium, but by many representatives that are working in the domestic violence field, and that was one of their recommendations that we do keep that consistent with the other language. With that, I guess I have nothing more to say. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. May I introduce some guests, please, of Senator Korshoj. In the north balcony, we have nine students from the Zion Lutheran Church in Bancroft, Nebraska with their teachers. Would you folks please stand and be recognized by the Legislature, all of you. Thank you for visiting us today. Senator Bernard-Stevens, please.