

have been around for a while. And I am truly grateful that the Judiciary Committee amendments were so thoughtfully hammered out, because that will help in the future. We have had several talk about the particularly good provisions to extend the statute of limitations for the child victim. And one of the important things, the enhanced training and prosecution for crimes against children, and not only providing or mandating training for the county attorneys and others who deal with these crimes, but to provide some financial help in those areas, too. This will also mandate yearly training, so we will keep county attorneys up to date and provide funding for that. And Senator Wesely has talked about putting an expertise in the Attorney General's office to assist these county attorneys who are out there in the trenches and have to deal with the day-to-day or the week-to-week child victim crimes. LB 1246 is a significant change, one that has been needed and will be helping children long after the Franklin case has been forgotten. With that, I hope you will support greatly LB 1246.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator McFarland, please.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and fellow senators. This is a bill that we did discuss in the Judiciary Committee. We discussed it very thoroughly. And I think we came out with three basic purposes in it, and those three purposes will have some beneficial effects to them. I think what is particularly appropriate is that we try to extend the, we in fact do extend the statute of limitations on particular offenses that relate to the Franklin Committee and relate to child abuse and neglect crimes in general. The idea, of course, is that while we can't go back and prosecute or have the statute of limitations extended so that you can prosecute crimes that may have already been committed and the statute may have already run, what we do in the bill is, if a particular crime has been committed, the statute has not yet run but is going to run in three months, or two months, or in a very short time, what this will do is extend that time so that if prosecutors discover the evidence, and if you have the grand jury issuing indictments for particular offenses of this nature, then that limitation will not have ex...have terminated and ended before the prosecution begins. And that is one of the beneficial aspects of the bill. The other one, of course, is not only dealing with Franklin specifically, but this kind of offense in general is to the enhanced training that is provided in the bill. I think it is a positive step for our Legislature to take. I think we should be