

I will await Senator Bernard-Stevens to illuminate me on whether or not...

PRESIDENT NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...the principle that we will criminalize the mistreatment of children based on where the child is located is somehow a higher value than simply the criminalization of the mistreatment of children, no matter where they are, 'cause that's what is at stake with this reconsideration motion. Thank you.

PRESIDENT NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens, please; followed by Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. Senator Landis, I'll try to refresh your memory just a little bit. Sometimes you really intrigue me with your arguments. I remember, for example, on Commonwealth earlier this year you pleaded to the body for a sense of fairness, a sense of justice, of right, doing what's right. It may not be the best political thing to do, but it was a fair play because you wanted the Commonwealth voted on before the other A bills. I remember last year, again on Commonwealth, beseeching the body for a straight shot, a fair play, a straight shot at it, none of the other things, just give me one shot and if I don't have the votes I don't have the votes. I remember yesterday, Dave, Senator Landis, that before we came to a vote there was a call of the house and one of the things that's done sometimes in the body is when there haven't been a lot of people present so they may not have heard the debate and they may not really know what is currently pending, Senator McFarland usually does...has done this in the past, but you used the procedure, which is perfectly acceptable, of asking for a call of the house, and as people were coming in you then began to give a closing so that they might have a clue of what it was they were voting on. You didn't wait for them to come in so they hear all that they're voting on, but you went ahead to expedite matters and explained as they were coming in. And what happened, in my sense of the body yesterday, is that many members were not quite certain what actually was being voted on. I think you were very clear and you were not deceiving at all about the explanation of your amendment. I have no question about that. But I think there are many members of the body who said, you know, I was...I didn't realize, Senator Pirsch, that your priority bill was