

where our children gather and so we say stay away, keep away from our children and where they gather. I agree also, and if you agree that selling to children does deserve, is more heinous a crime, does deserve a more severe penalty, I can't understand why that is not copacetic with those areas where we hope our children are safe. I did not get a chance to debate LB 976 and perhaps it does need amendment. The specific thing that Senator Chambers spoke to, of course, is covered in other sections of our statutes and if any of LB 976 needs amendment then we look at that, and usually, after we discuss a bill on General File, that's when amendments come on Select. I would like that opportunity. I certainly was told of no amendments that needed in Judiciary Committee. Judiciary Committee passed it out without amendment. I don't understand...

PRESIDENT NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR PIRSCH: ...how one cannot be compatible with the other and I would be glad to discuss drug-free school zones and other places, playgrounds, but, Senator Landis, with 22 votes, 23, Bernard-Stevens to reconsider wiped out that opportunity and I hope that you vote to reconsider; that you do deny Senator Landis's amendment and allow those kinds of discussions to follow.

PRESIDENT NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Chambers, please; followed by Senator Morrissey and Senator Hall. Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, let me say why I say this is a political bill, not ascribing those motives to Senator Pirsch. This kind of bill never came to us until the Bush administration got on its hobby horse. Then it never came to us until the federal government's representatives came down here and said, we don't want to handle this because it's burdening our system, we want to dump it on the state. As Senator Pirsch pointed out to you, this kind of stuff can be done right now by the federal government, but they even had a meeting and they talked to Douglas County District judges and wondered if there was going to be direct opposition to the federal government trying to do this, and I think the judges said they would not take a position opposing it. But that's where...that's why this bill is here. And, Senator Pirsch, if you're not aware of it, I want to tell you whatever a U.S. Attorney does, who is a political appointee and often a