

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you. I, too, will be brief but I do want to state on the floor that this is an important bill for a narrow kind of victim, but a victimization that is particularly horrible. There is protections for the criminal in these amendments, but there is also relief for a victim who is being pursued by this kind of offender. Urge your support for the passage of this bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Pirsch. Senator Rasmussen.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Madam Chairman and members of the body, I rise in strong support of LB 1098. I thank Senator Robak for bringing this bill. It is, as Senator Pirsch said, a particularly frightening and terribly psychologically damaging impact that stalking has on people and heretofore has not been able to have anybody respond in order to protect people and I would urge you to support the passage of it.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Rasmussen. Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Madam President and members, I, too, rise in support of this. However, I just wanted to point out that Senator Wesely stated that many women face harassment and that's true. But I do think that it's necessary to point out that from what I've seen and I've read that also many men face this same situation. And so it's certainly not something that women face but also that men oftentimes face. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: Madam Speaker, I heard this bill in Judiciary. I didn't really realize, when it came up I thought, well, this happened to another incident, in fact I'll say it, my daughter in Denver. It was terrible the way that she just could not get away from this fellow. And I think back of that and there were no laws either. There was just nothing that she could do unless he physically harmed her and he did not do that except mentally. And I don't think that this bill is one of them that we even need to spend any time on. It is very much needed and so I just with that and as Senator Bohlke said, there are men it is the same way. It is not necessarily a women's bill. But I just hope that you move it real fast because from the testimony in the Judiciary Committee and so on it is very much needed. Thanks.