

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Witek, your light is next.

SENATOR WITEK: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, I am still uncomfortable with doing something like this. I am reading through the rest of the statute area that this is under, and it is under offenses involving the family relation, and some of the other areas are incest, I don't know how they prove some of these things in court either, incest, incestuous marriages. To me, these same arguments that Senator Chambers is using to throw this statute out could at some point be used to throw out some of these other statutes for criminal behavior. And I am not sure, I am not sure it is not criminal behavior to abandon a family and do some of these things. You know, I am sure at one point, things have changed an awful lot maybe since these have gone on the books, but there is an awful lot of people out there who maybe sometimes yearn for instead of going totally to the opposite end of the spectrum, kind of like what Senator Chambers is asking us to do, is to maybe keep some common sense middle ground, and I guess because of my interest, and I have been looking into this this summer and trying to look at some of the no-fault divorce situations, and some of the custody situations that are going on out there, and people in my own family fighting for custody of their children in court situations, I am not comfortable, I don't think, voting to do away with this statute because I think maybe the areas that we should be focusing on aren't throwing, throwing these out of law, but maybe looking at some...a little more middle ground areas. Like I said, if he is uncomfortable with this statute, maybe you can change it to taking out "desert" or even proving sexual intercourse. I agree that that would be difficult, but it would also be difficult in incest situations, or incestuous marriages situations, or, you know, any of these...some of these other statutes. So I guess I am not comfortable right now changing this law so drastically. Thank you.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Witek. Senator Hartnett, your light is next.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, Senator Chambers, could I ask you a question.

SENATOR HALL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.