

has lobbied at the federal level for this uniform federal legislation. The federal legislation is not bad. It's to bring all states into compliance so that we can have this in every state that, and as you can see from your map, all states except for four states, Nebraska being the only one in the entire midsection of the country, that has not passed this exact language, this exact language. All those states didn't find a problem with it. But because Senator Chambers is in this Legislature trying to convince you that there's a problem with this, some of you might consider taking this language out, and you will weaken the bill. You go to Mrs. Cutshall and you tell her why you, why you would even consider taking this language out of the bill, or Roy Stephens and tell him why you would consider taking this language out of the bill. You talk to those people because I cannot make sense, not one, not one reasonable argument to take these offenses out of this bill. This bill is in great shape, we have the support, I hope you will not listen to Senator Chambers. I don't care if he amends for the entire eight hours, although he told me that, that his only problem yesterday was with the predator language, and I think we've made that clear to people what the difference is here. And if that difference remains, it doesn't make any difference what rhetoric or what word you use to me, but this darn well makes a difference to me. I ask you, please, consider this amendment very seriously, vote against it. There is absolutely no reason. We are talking about victims here. We are talking about children here. We are talking about families that have gone through irreparable damage, and we are talking about individuals who are involved in these crimes, who are convicted of these offenses. And I know Senator Chambers...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR WITEK: ... (inaudible) these people and you try to have some sensitivity, but you're also parents, you know, you're trying to hold together a society here. We are trying to have a safe society here for our families and our children's. And this, this bill works towards that end. And so I would hope that you would just allow this amendment to fail and to try to get a bill passed in this Legislature in a... this morning, I held hopes that we could get it through. But I would, however long it takes, this is a bill that needs to be passed in Nebraska this year. So I hope you'll all hang in there with that in mind and vote against the Chambers amendment. Thank