

February 2, 1996 LB 645

what I'd like to do is give you the rest of my time if you can educate me a little bit, but what I understand, you're trying now to take out the sections that do not directly deal with a sexual offense.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay, and would you take whatever time you need to to, if you don't mind, to bring me up to speed as to why, even though we may be voting differently on the bill, it seems to me that you may be making some sense on this amendment, not that you don't on other amendments, but on this one particularly, I would appreciate if you'd take some of my time and explain a little bit more about why this portion should be taken out of the bill because it's not consistent with, with what we're trying to do.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Bernard-Stevens, this bill, if it becomes law, is going to be known as the Sex Offender Registration Act. When Senator Abboud had additional language added to the bill, he said those additions were made because he got hold of a document emanating from the federal government that convinced him that those additions must be made. Included in those additions are kidnapping and false imprisonment of a minor. I'm saying that if you're going to list out offenses as he has done, list out those offenses that relate to sexual conduct. Since we're talking about a specific setting aside of a group of people and labeling them based on their conduct, since the label is to be applied because of sexual misconduct, all of the named offenses should be sexual offenses. Kidnapping is not a sexual offense. False imprisonment is not a sexual offense. Assault is not a sexual offense. Even though we can think of all types of things that people may do that could be done for the purpose of compelling somebody to commit sex, the act itself that we're talking about, or the crime, is not a sexual offense. So I'm saying that I would strike the part of Senator Abboud's amendment that added to the bill kidnapping and false imprisonment. The way the bill is structured and the way it works is that a person commits one of these acts, at least one of them, a judge can consult with experts. If these experts