

February 22, 1996 LB 645

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You did say that.

SENATOR WITEK: ...that we're talking about children here, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, but we're talking about more than children here, aren't we.

SENATOR WITEK: In a very narrow portion of this bill we are talking about...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is the word "adult" in this bill?

SENATOR WITEK: ...an individual...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is there a category of adults in this bill that is being dealt with also?

SENATOR WITEK: If you will name that category and not just go onto whatever you're going to say if I would answer in the affirmative, I would answer in the affirmative.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Witek, thank you. Senator Witek is relying on her staff, and the staff member was not elected to bring things to this Legislature. But if the Senator accepts what the staff member brings, then it's between them to parcel out the blame. This bill specifically says so if you adopt her amendment without mine sexual assault of a vulnerable adult, an adult is not a child. An adult is not a child. This bill does not cover every crime against children. So the name is misleading in every regard. First of all, it doesn't deal only with children, this bill deals with adults also. So to talk about what A. Jacob Wetterling did, wherever he did it, may have been applicable where A. Jacob Wetterling was. But it's not appropriate for what they've brought before us here. This that Senator Witek is trying to do will give her a campaign arguing point, she got her bill. But I'm offering an amendment to continue mucking up the thing which is what it seems you all want to do. So now I'm going to tell you what my amendment does. Senator Witek's amendment would change the name of this bill to "Crimes Against Children and Sex Offender Registration Act". I don't know if the crimes are against the children and the registration act, but that "and" is conjunctive, it draws the two together. So the crimes in this bill are committed