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LB 270

crystal clear what we needed to do if we were not going to leave our hate crime statute ineffective and unenforceable. With that, I would urge the adoption of the amendment and the advancement of the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Brashear. Senator Friend.

SENATOR FRIEND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the Legislature, I just wanted to say one more thing about this. I wanted to clear something up. I think that there's plenty of suspect law on our books. We've been doing it for over a century. The hate crimes law is a suspect law. I rise in support of this amendment and I rise in support of this bill. We can go back and change that original law, but this, what we're doing here, does nothing to effect that. All we would do by defeating this amendment and this bill is make a bad law even worse, I believe. So let me give you a quick example. Senator Bourne is not here. I saw his tie earlier and I hated it. (Laughter) I also hate the fact that he was wearing it. I'm joking on the record. I'm going to kill him for wearing that tie and that shirt, and the fact that he's wearing it really, really bothers me. Now you establish that in my mind, you could figure that out, Senator Chambers. You're in there and you're going to say, I'm going to prosecute Senator Friend; he killed Senator Bourne for wearing an ugly tie, an ugly shirt, and just being ugly. (Laughter) I think that that proves my point. I mean these are...I think Senator Bourne was also right. You have to go out and establish what is in that person's mind, but I think you see the problem here. Are we going to protect all lawyers because everybody in society hates them? (Laughter) Can't be done. The bottom line is this. Some laws are broken. They're moving downhill and they're moving really, really slow. Let's make them as effective as we possibly can until we can get rid of them. That's really all I had to say. I return the remainder of my time to the Chair. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Friend. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I would yield my time to Senator Foley.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Foley, you have almost five minutes.