

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 6, 2004

LB 943

substantive changes but they're balancing kinds of changes that put the law into better perspective and better context when it's considered with all the law that currently exists. And basically, just to quickly go over the items that are involved, it deletes some language related to attempts and attempts to solicit and to coax and entice, which is not necessary because, really, the basic offense itself is of that very nature. And so the language is duplicative. It eliminates one of the violations...one of the underlying violations that's references in trying to entice a child through a computer because it is one of the more minor violations and the penalty for the violation itself would be greater than the penalty for...or the penalty for using the computer to entice would be greater than the penalty for the...than the crime itself, so it would be completely unbalanced in that regard. So that's just eliminated because the bill does address the more serious violations. And then the Attorney General suggested that one Class III felony be changed to a Class IIIA, and then another Class II felony be changed to a Class III felony, so that it better comported to existing law. Finally, there's a provision included that indicates that a person shall not be charged with both a violation of the computer section and the underlying crime because the violation of the computer section is of the nature of an attempt. And under our law, generally, you cannot charge both the attempt and the principal violation. You choose one or the other, of course, depending on what actually happened. If you charged both of them, it would be essentially compounding the seriousness of the actual violation of the crime and have the effect of making it disproportionate, as was the problem with another provision in this amendment. Having said all that, I would invite questions, but I think that pretty much puts this statute in good order, from everybody's point of view. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. You've heard the opening on AM3593. Open for discussion on that motion. Senator Beutler, there are no lights on. You may close if you care to.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, I made an error in the sense that this amendment doesn't have one provision that the subsequent amendment has, and so I would ask unanimous consent