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FLOOR DEBATE

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is concerned about, she feels, and I don't think I'm putting words into her mouth, she feels is too broad, is found on page 4, lines 15 and 16. And among the obligations that the missing...this bill would create upon the State Patrol is one that would develop training programs to assist in the prevention of kidnapping, and Senator Stuhr feels that's too broad. And again, if that's what...if that's the price of advancing the bill, I'll...that's okay with me. I do want to note that I don't understand why we would not require the State Patrol to offer training programs to assist in the prevention of kidnapping. I think anything that we can do to protect our children is a good thing to do. There's a modest fiscal note. I think it's \$20,000 or \$30,000 a year on the...or for the bill. I don't...or I shouldn't say for a year. I think the fiscal note...well, we'll discuss that on the next bill. But, again, the language that Senator Stuhr is seeking to strike is that which requires the State Patrol to offer some sort of training programs to assist in the prevention of kidnapping. I have a number of brochures here that are put out by the State Patrol regarding putting on seat belts, or how to keep your home secure from burglaries, or how to prevent yourself from being robbed or your purse snatched, and that's what's contemplated here. I don't really see it as an additional obligation that is particularly onerous on the State Patrol, and I think anything we can do to protect our kids we should do. Everybody that reads the newspaper is basically barraged with information regarding missing kids. Every 37 seconds a child in our country disappears. Now, I'm not saying they're all kidnapped, but some of them are, and what I'm suggesting is that the State Patrol should be able to help parents prevent their children from being kidnapped. I'll give you some statistics. There's an estimated 797,000 children were reported missing, according to NISMART-2 research program, and that was in the year 1999. Fifty-eight thousand two hundred of those children were abducted by nonfamily members. That's what's called kidnapping. An abduction is a kidnapping. And what I am advocating in this bill, that the State Patrol develop a training program to prevent 58,200 children from being abducted every year. A hundred and fifteen children were victims of the most serious long-term nonfamily abductions, called stereotypical kidnappings, and then there were 203,900 children in 1999 were