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my brother's keeper? I always considered that the signature lesson of the Holocaust. I always felt that, in the largest sense, it was not about Jews and Aryans, but about humanity and inhumanity. The Holocaust was, after all, only hatred carried to its logical extreme, the predictable outcome of an environment where we countenance taking rights from "them," heaping scorn on "them," making scapegoats of "them." And who can deny that this describes the plight of gay Americans in 2005? Or that demagogic lawmakers are using this environment to further their own ambitions? There was a book that was going to be used in some schools, and there was a law being considered in Alabama to take it out, because there were some gay characters. And the question posed, that may be asked by children even, and certainly relatives and those who are gay and lesbian, why do they hate us? The columnist then says: And it strikes me that the same thing could have been asked by an Armenian in 1915, by a Bosnian Muslim in 1992, by a Rwandan in 1994, and, yes, by a Jew in 1936. We don't learn. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this body has shown that a substantial number have thought about this, have learned, are willing to extend our respect for the humanity of our brothers and sisters, to our gay and lesbian friends, relatives, neighbors, even, perhaps, enemies. I would ask, Mr. President, for a call of the house.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. There has been a request by Senator Chambers for a call of the house. All in favor of the house going under call vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: 24 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to place the house under call.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The house is under call. All unauthorized personnel please leave the floor. Unexcused senators report to the Chamber. The house is under call. Senator Engel, Senator Don Pederson, Senators Flood, Langemeier, Heidemann. Senators Fischer, Loudon, McDonald. Senators Burling, Synowiecki, and Bourne. Senator Thompson and Senator Beutler. The house is under call. Senator Flood, Senator Brashear, Senator Fischer, Senator Burling, Senator Loudon, Senator Synowiecki, Senator Bourne, Senators Thompson and Beutler. Senator Brown, would you