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is that there tends to be a taking of sides and lack of flexibility, but this bill is not about abortion insofar as its...insofar as its basic thrust is concerned, although I'm sure there are people here who would argue that that's what it's about in the end. Nonetheless, let me take the bill on its face value as a piece of legislation that is protective or would purport to be protective of an element of our population, and take it on its facts and ask the questions that we should ask on all legislation: What is...what is fair and what is unfair about the way we have it drafted? How could it be better? Is it strong enough, too strong, or just right? Especially as this is a kind of new application of the law, I would advocate a conservative approach in some ways. And so I have essentially two amendments before you today, one of which from the point of view of proponents of the bill might be seen as strengthening it, and the other one might be seen as weakening it from that same perspective. But my perspective is, what makes sense? What's fair all around here? Let me remind you what the bill says. It basically deals with the offense of assault, and it deals with the offense of assault insofar as it applies to an unborn child, and there are three categories of offenses. One is an intentional and knowingly causing serious bodily harm to an unborn child; and then you go down to the category of recklessly causing serious bodily harm with a dangerous instrument; and then the third category is again the offense of assault, this time recklessly, as in the second category, but not with a dangerous instrument recklessly causing serious bodily injury. So yo So you have those three categories, and in each of those three categories it says "a person," "a person" commits, "a person" commits, "a person" But then there's an exception in Section 7 of the commits. bill, at the bottom of page 2. It says that this Assault of an Unborn Child Act does not apply to any act or conduct that is committed or engaged in by the mother of the unborn child. So, in other words, it doesn't really apply to all persons. applies to all persons but the mother of the unborn child, which is an interesting application as compared to other areas of the law, because most of the time we argue that people in a special place of responsibility should be held to a higher standard, not a lower standard or, as in this case, being totally exempted from the application of the law. Lawyers, for example, are held