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LB 1086

SENATOR BOURNE: We would look in...on page...or, excuse me, on page 1, line 15, the definition where it talks about financial harm. We would look to see if that has been defined anywhere else in our statutes. On lines 16 through 18, forced labor or services mean labor or services that are performed or provided by another person. Is this phrase consistent with our constitution? Is this phrase consistent with other references in statutes? Down below, it talks about causing or threatening to cause serious harm, physically restraining or threaten to physically restrain, abuse or threaten to abuse. Is this a new standard? Do we currently have this in statute? What are the implications? Does it carry over to another section of statute where there might be a criminal penalty? Is this current with our...is this consistent with our current practices? I don't know. I do want to go to the penalty provisions on page 3.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator. Thank you, Senator Bourne. The speaking order is Senators Schimek, Aguilar, Chambers, Bourne, Jensen, and Synowiecki. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President. I'll just make some brief remarks, and then, Senator Bourne, I would like to give you the rest of my time so that you can finish your explanation of the amendment. I'm in strong support of the concept of this amendment. Now, I've been accused at times in my life of being somewhat naive, and I probably am, because I don't like to believe the worst things that can happen in this world. They seem inconceivable to me. But I have read enough to know that this is a problem, at least in some other areas of our country, and in some other areas of the world. Is it a problem in Nebraska? I don't know. I'm naive enough to think that probably it isn't. But I don't know. And I think a preventative measure is better than trying to address a problem later, so I'm in very strong support of the concept of this bill. I was originally going to get up and say, Senator Bourne, that I know that the Judiciary Committee maybe hasn't had a chance to work on this bill, and maybe more work needs to be done on it. But I would hope that this body could agree that it's something worth doing. And so with that, I would give you the rest of my time.