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up higher penalties for assaults on pregnant women. Senator Foley has not changed his view of that, as a mutually exclusive view, but has said, you know, enhanced penalties for assaults on women who are pregnant is not a bad idea. I think he supports that, and that is an idea that a number of us have, in fact, supported in the past. So here's the second idea: Building on the model of the hate crimes legislation, which says in that area, if you have the hate crimes motive present in what is otherwise a criminal act, the net effect of proving that will raise the level of criminality one classification in our system of classification. Now we took that idea and we put it into this form: We said when there is a criminal offense against a pregnant woman, in these areas of assaults--and we listed all the areas that assaults could be that we knew--that is one step higher of criminal penalty or classification than it would otherwise be in the statutes. So if you committed a Class III assault, but the victim was a pregnant woman, then if that was a Class III misdemeanor, it would then be a Class II misdemeanor. The idea is enhanced penalties when the victim is a pregnant woman. It's limited to areas of assault and I would ask for the adoption of the amendment. Thank you. I would surrender the rest of my time to Senator Foley for additional comments he might want to make.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Foley, about six minutes.

SENATOR FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members, and thank you, Senator Landis, for the time that you have devoted to this issue. I think it was interesting when Senator Landis sat down with me to discuss all of this, we found that our positions were really quite close, and the amendment that we offer to you, AM3170, is a product of both of our efforts. I have no reservations about it. I enthusiastically support the amendment. I'll ask you to vote for it, as well. And with the enactment of this amendment and the eventual enactment of the bill, I think it's fair to say that Nebraska by far and away will have the most comprehensive body of law giving protection to unborn children, as well as enhanced protection for women who are pregnant, against all those assaults that might be committed against her while she's pregnant. So I thank Senator Landis again for his time and his efforts on the bill. I ask you to