

the courtroom in the event the atmosphere of the courtroom is such that a young child would be intimidated about testifying in open court. I ask the adoption of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: There is an amendment to the committee amendment.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Withdraw that, please.

CLERK: Both of them, Senator?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Both of them, yes.

CLERK: All right.

PRESIDENT: The amendment is withdrawn. We have the committee amendments as offered by Senator Hoagland from the committee. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Scofield, for the bill.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President. LB 90 is...the intent of LB 90 is to simply prevent trauma to a child who is either the victim or the witness of a felony offense. This type of technique is being used in other states and, in fact, the idea for the bill was originally brought to me by a county attorney who is involved in prosecuting a good number of child sexual assault cases, incest and other types of sexual assault cases. And we spent a good amount of time last year studying the issue, responding to some questions that have been raised and so one of the attorneys that worked with us on the bill suggested that if it was appropriate to protect children who were victims of sexual assault, why wouldn't this be equally appropriate to protect, if our intent was, in fact, to protect children, which it was, wouldn't it be logical to expand this and allow a videotaped deposition or an in camera type of hookup where it was deemed appropriate by the court to protect that child from trauma? So that is the intent behind the bill. I think the committee amendments significantly improve the