

harm in limiting the bill in this respect but I can certainly respect those who might feel otherwise, including the co-sponsors of this bill, and I would yield the rest of my time to Senator Scofield, if I might, Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Senator Scofield.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Senator Hoagland. I would like to just make one point here and I think there is a good reason to leave the child-witness in there. We had some specific instances brought to our attention, specifically one where a little child had witnessed the parents beat the sibling to death. I think that is a pretty traumatic experience. I think these are unusual cases. This would only be used in extreme cases. They do occur. I think there is good justification for not changing that and I would urge you to reject the amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Senator Scofield. We have one additional light now and that is Senator Lundy.

SENATOR LUNDY: I will just make a brief statement that I agree with what has been said by Senator Scofield. I think we should leave it alone without the amendment.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Senator Lundy. That now leaves us with the closing by Senator Johnson on his substitute amendment. Senator Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this amendment is offered to help with a potential constitutional problem that LB 90 has, and, you know, under the United States Constitution, an accused, which could be any one of us in here, is entitled to face his accuser, and even if his accuser is a little child, that accused is entitled to face that accuser. Well, LB 90 says that under some circumstances the accused can be isolated from the accuser, and that is done essentially to get the truth out of the child and to allow the child to testify in a friendly atmosphere. That is why it is being...that is the basic purpose of LB 90. However, LB 90 goes further than just simply dealing with the accuser because it also deals with witnesses who are not the accusers, and the Nebraska State Bar Association suggests that for purposes of protecting the constitutionality of what is at issue, we at least on this go-around eliminate the isolation of the child-witness from the accused. We don't put that in LB 90. We