

background checks when they have no access to children whatsoever. So that's the purpose of the amendment, and I offer it hopefully to clarify and make the intent of the introducers and the authors follow...make the bill subject to the intent to which they have indicated they are wishing the bill would have. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Horgan, did you wish to address the Withem amendment? Senator Crosby, the Withem amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will address that amendment because I just want to say a couple of things in general, but I understand what Senator Withem is doing in trying to help clean up the amendment, shall I say. Senator Chizek, when you and I talked about it just briefly last week, I didn't focus on the whole thing and I still feel that even with your amendment we are targeting teachers and that I just have a visceral, v-i-s-c-e-r-a-l, feeling about that particular side of it. It does...I just don't feel comfortable about it, and from the information that I have gotten, the teachers still do not support the bill even with this amendment. Now there are a couple of other things I would like to point out. Senator Bernard-Stevens answered a couple of my questions about the people who were involved in the two particular incidents. There weren't any prior record so that wouldn't have solved those. That wouldn't have stopped that. The other thing, there are a lot of professional organizations, for instance, the Bar Association, the Medical Association, the nurses organizations, a lot of those people come in contact with children. Maybe not lawyers, but even in the courts, yes, they do come into contact with children. I think any one of those organizations would take it as a professional insult to ask them to have a criminal background investigation after they have passed the bar or after they have passed the medical examination or the nurses examination, then they have to have a criminal background check and go and get it themselves and be sure that everybody is satisfied that they haven't done anything terrible before they almost can even apply for a job. So I don't like the targeting of teachers and I'd like to point out one more thing for the record. Sixty-eight percent of secondary and elementary teachers in the State of Nebraska are women. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Chizek, did you wish to address the Withem amendment? Senator Robinson, the