

SENATOR PAPPAS: Question for Senator Chambers.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR PAPPAS: Senator Chambers, could you tell me if the bill as drafted and amended now would require liability or responsibility of private homes like Boys Town or other private care homes for children? Would they be responsible?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes. Any individual or agency in the position of guardian would be responsible and liable under this bill, but the state or any political subdivision would not, even though they would be the legal guardian.

SENATOR PAPPAS: I'm not saying anything bad about the system, but I think generally in the public's perception that children in foster care homes and in homes, say, like Boys Town would probably percentagewise be a little more, not apt to commit shoplifting, but probably in reality in a higher percent they would. So, in essence we're treating...detering the usage of private homes and stuff for children because of the liability factor?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You could if the public were aware of this but this is one of those kind of bills that the public will have no knowledge of until a judgment is being enforced against them by some collection agency. That's how most people become aware of such a bill as this.

SENATOR PAPPAS: Okay, thank you. I think I right now support Senator Chambers's amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Ashford, please.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. President and members, I really don't particularly care if you support Senator Chambers' amendment or not except that all you'll be doing by doing it is increasing the cost of litigation and I think that as a practicing lawyer for 14 years I'm fairly well aware of the costs involved in going into municipal court or now county court and district court to recover relatively small amounts of money. The bill as it...I think is a good bill. It solves a problem which I think is a pervasive one. I don't care, if you want to pass this amendment, that's fine, but by doing that I just want