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FLOOR DEBATE

January 14, 2004 LB 172, 270

Open for discussion on that motion. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I wish to speak to the main amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Chambers, you're next.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Foley has whipsawed this Legislature on these abortion and antiabortion issues last session and this session. What he is offering is preposterous. To say that a fetus will have a hate crime committed against the fetus is preposterous. This is his way of killing the bill while scoring points with those people who feel like he feels about abortion. Since he has opened the door, I want to tell you all briefly about a conversation I had on the phone yesterday with a young woman. Her last name was Wisdom. I believe she said her first name is Elise (sic--Anyse). And she wondered what my point of view is on LB 172, which was Senator Foley's bill. I told her I was 100 percent opposed to it, and I would resist it in every way that I could. I told her that I was aware of her position, because Senator Foley had stated it on the floor, but that I couldn't disagree with her more in terms of denying this information to these young women. She said, what? I said, you don't think these young women ought to have this information about the judicial waiver and...we went through it...and you're offended by it. She said, that's not my position. She said, I'm not against that information being given; I'm upset because the information also doesn't talk about adoption and other alternatives. She said that's what her view was. Senator Foley said she told him she was offended because the information was handed out. She was offended because it didn't contain things she thought it ought to have, based on what she said to me. And I'm saying it on the floor, because it will be recorded, it can be transcribed, it can be submitted to her, and she can be asked, am I correctly reflecting our conversation. I told her that the purpose of that information is not to advocate abortion, not to speak against abortion, but to give information about an existing law, and to state what the law involves; that this type of information, distributed by the schools as required