

this time. I wasn't aware of this. I had never even thought much about this. Maybe I've been told this somewhere along the line, but I really didn't ever think too much about this. Now it's not going to affect me anymore, but there are sure a lot of...it may effect my grandchildren. And I am concerned about the lives that my...the kind of life that my grandchild may live. This causes...alcohol, the effect on the fetus can cause physical, mental or behavioral defects. And there are different kinds of degrees of this. It depends upon the time in the life of the child as it's in the mother's body, what kinds of defects there will be. The intent of the bill is to help in the whole education process to raise awareness. Cities like Washington, D.C. and New York City do require this posting and, in fact, after one year of the posting of this sign in New York City there was a 14 percent increase in awareness on the part of the public. So that shows you that the sign isn't as insignificant as some of us like to make it out to be, and it may be of great assistance to some people. As I've mentioned to you, this is a part of an educational program, it's a part of an awareness program. There is a packet that is being put out by ARC which can be used by schools, it can be used by clubs and organizations to help educate people about the concerns that we do have for fetal alcohol syndrome. The other day I passed out a sheet to you that had a number of comments about the problem. Now I can't find it. I suppose by now, because I assumed that we were going to...oh, some people do still have it. Very good, thank you. The facts that are listed on your sheet, I won't enumerate those to you right now. You had a chance to see them yesterday, you have them in your bill books. You can look at them to see some of the things that they are talking about here. We now know that fetal alcohol syndrome leads the other two leading kinds of mental retardation, Down's syndrome and spina bifida. This one leads them. In Nebraska alone, we know that there can range anywhere between 20 to 75 cases a year. We know that in 1986 alone there were 84 new cases of fetal alcohol syndrome children that were born. And this, if you don't care about life, I know that some of you care about dollars, then think of the cost to society to care for those children throughout their lives, and think of the loss to that child and to that family about something that could have been prevented. I ask your support for this bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Motion on the desk, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Robak would move to indefinitely