

that there is a type of conduct which is ungodly, and that conduct carries its own punishment, and that punishment is AIDS, and it says, people contract AIDS, which is viewed as a punishment from an outraged deity, there should be no protection offered in the law for people with that disease. Were I offering a bill that would try to obtain money for treatment and investigation of the disease, they might have said the same thing on that score that we should not be wasting money to try to thwart the will of God. I at least want you to know what the negative testimony was, but here is something that all of us are aware of. Very young children have gotten the disease, and who can say that a baby, a baby born with this disease is a sinner, cursed of God,...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...therefore, should be thrown to the wolves. There are people whose spouses may have obtained the disease as the result of a blood transfusion and receives it from an unwitting spouse not even knowing that he or she had the disease. So there are circumstances under which people can contract this disease which have nothing to do with conduct that anybody in society would deem reprehensible. These people are not lepers. They are not diseased things. They should not be thrown on the garbage heap of society. They are human beings, and regardless of how they came by the disease, our concern should be how they are treated now that they have it, and this bill is designed to give them a measure of protection that will let them live out whatever days they have left with a minimum of overdiscriminatory mistreatment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. An amendment on the desk, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Smith, you had an amendment from last year. Senator, I had a note that you wished to withdraw. Mr. President, Senator Chambers would like to amend his bill. (See FA 324 on page 315 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, and members of the Legislature, if you will look at the first statement attached to the handout that I gave you, you will see some underlying material in the third paragraph from the bottom, and the suggestion from the