

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...so let's go ahead and put the severability clause and nothing will be harmed. I urge adoption of the Smith motion.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Nelson, followed by Senators Schimek, Dierks, Peterson, Scofield and Lindsay. Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, I...when I brought this to the body yesterday, I didn't intend for this to...I thought the body really was for the good of everybody, everything and when we took our oath as a Legislature that we tried to defend that and not have our own necessarily personal or biased interests brought into our...maybe our decisions but that's each and every one of our own privileges on what to do. I didn't think that the amendment meant that much. I can remember when Senator Labez put it on and Senator Scofield, again, her comment, I don't see any big problem with it. As I say, there are other people more knowledgeable than I that have been through law school and that do know. And, again, it is a matter of free speech and that's about exactly where we're at on the bill. I don't think the abortion issue is the issue. The Attorney General's Opinion is that each and everyone is entitled to free speech and so on and I think that's part of the issue right now. It almost blows my mind though how a senator can stand on the floor and have such disregard for those little kids that are here and on...that are born and that are need of help, could either be caused from alcohol syndrome. It could be mental retardation. It could be that the poor mother doesn't have enough money to raise that family. It also is that high school girl that needs counseling, pregnancy. I'm with Senator Morrissey that...my high school kids, I took a survey, they're asking for more education and more help. And how we can turn our backs on these kids and these little kids that we have to stand and look ourselves in the face day after day for one very narrow particular portion of...or one issue in society. I know it means a lot to other people. Someone else may mean something with an agriculture issue or Senator Dierks, his medical issues, or whatever, but I think, as a body, we have to try to do what's right. And Senator Lindsay's...and he has a Bar degree, he knows far more than I do on this, but I think his argument is very, very false. And to inject that at this time, sure, maybe a few votes will fall off the other way but I hope to goodness the body tries to do for the good of everyone and the whole