

rise in opposition to the Chambers amendment. In reading the amendment, I have a couple of problems with it. One is that it does affect the private schools and I think there could very well be a problem of conscience with some of these schools in having to abide by these rules and regulations as outlined in the amendment. The other problem I see is that we've already asked the public schools in the Withem amendment to inform the students of these laws. It seems to me that there is somewhat overkill in doing this, and, again, there is nothing in the law that prohibits these counselors and school nurses from informing the students of the law as it currently exists or as it will exist when and if this bill passes. So if a young lady goes to a school counselor, the school counselor is not prohibited from discussing the law with her, but, indeed, the question of liability would come up if the student at some point in the future felt that she was not properly informed. And I think we are going down a road that can lead to litigation against the schools and against individuals for lack of performance of their duty under the law with this requirement, and I think it is a dangerous thing to do. What seems to me to be the most logical circumstances, that we use the Withem amendment to inform young people about the law. If a young lady gets into this unfortunate situation where she wants to seek an abortion, she probably is going to go to a family planning clinic. At the clinic, they are going to advise her about what her legal rights are at that time, and perhaps direct her to an abortion clinic. So she will know about it. She is not going to show up on the day for the abortion and be informed. Particularly with the Withem amendment, I think we have tried to protect ourselves with that, and I think, you know, I haven't heard a lot of discussion about the preciousness of life of the unborn but I think that is something we ought to keep in mind. If, indeed, there is life there, there are rights there, and those rights need to be equally concerned and protected as well. And so for those reasons, I would oppose the Chambers amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Horgan. We will now go to Senator Hillman on the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Chambers amendment. I think one thing that maybe has been lost a little bit in thinking about, and I'm thinking about a 13-, 14-year-old girl here, that perhaps in our community is fairly new to the community, does not know where any of the services are available. Her family does not have a doctor that she can