

no notice being given would end that adoption and return the child to the biological parents as it ruled in terms of Baby Jessica. It just seems apparent to me that not having a statute, not clarifying in statute that notice is given and how notice is given is asking for a problem like Baby Jessica. It's just waiting to happen and the attorneys that appeared at the hearing indicated as such. Now there are others who obviously feel, no, it will be fine, let's take our chances, it will be all right. I don't want to take chances on this issue. I don't want parents out there who adopt wondering, waiting and worrying whether or not the child they have adopted will be with them for the rest of their lives, whether somebody out of the blue will ride in and say I'm the father, I want the baby and take that baby away. And right now, I tell you that it's very possible that that could happen and it would be I think a disaster that we would all suffer from as not just from the parents that lost the child or the child themselves, but I think as to society we suffer when something like that happens. In adoptions themselves since the Baby Jessica case has brought worry and concern to parents that are adopting because it isn't clear, it isn't precise in the way that we need to make it. And so in my view, Senator Matzke has fashioned a piece of legislation that will take us off the constitutional tightrope and put us back on solid ground where we can be assured that adoptions will be there and with notice given, that problem taken care of, I think we can move forward with confidence through the adoption process. The adoption agencies that may have contacted you or written to you...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...have concerns and we listened to those concerns, but frankly, I think that they're wanting to take the risk of a constitutional challenge I think is running a risk I don't want to take. And in addition their alternative was to take, instead of waiting 5 days after the birth of the child before finalizing the adoption, they wanted...their idea to deal with this problem was to give 30 days, not 5 days. Well I think that's exactly the wrong direction. Waiting longer for the adopting parents to take custody of the child, to bring the child into the home right after their birth, I just again, as a father myself I don't see that as a solution. I think you want to take and have that child when it's born, come into a loving home and have that home there immediately for the child knowing that that home will be stable and solid and adoption secure far