

SENATOR BROMM: So you believe the requirement of the affidavit might have a deterrent effect upon some mothers to tell the truth, or it might be more persuasive than the present system.

SENATOR MATZKE: Yes, and the law further requires, in Section 3, the agency or attorney representing the biological mother shall inform the mother of the legal and medical need to determine, whenever possible, the paternity of the child prior to an adoption, and that her failure or refusal to accurately identify the biological father or possible biological fathers could threaten the legal validity of any adoptive placement of the child. That section of statute puts a positive burden on both the agency and the attorney to fully advise the biological mother of the seriousness of being truthful.

SENATOR BROMM: Okay, now the appeal, the mention of Section 15 and the ex...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BROMM: ...the expiration of three months after an order, the normal appeal time, in county court I believe, is 30 days, and we're leaving this open for 3 months. Why not...why not...why not 30 days or a shorter period of time than 3 months?

SENATOR MATZKE: Well, that was discussed and different time periods were considered all the way from 3 months to a year. Three months, frankly, was considered to be about as short a reasonable time as could be placed in there. There's also a provision that says, subject to the disposition of an appeal. So there, of course, could be an appeal if it was a contested matter. But then it goes on to say, upon the expiration of three months after an order is issued. Three months seems to be...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time.

SENATOR MATZKE: ...a reasonable time without being too long.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: Senator Bromm, I just have a few questions, because you've asked most of mine, but if you need some more time, you can have whatever is left on mine. I also don't see why you have to wait three months. If we're going to put