

this legislation will protect them. Maybe it will bring up some other concerns. Who knows how the courts are going to react anymore? I don't. Of course, I'm not a lawyer and kind of glad for that. But I think being a butcher you get yourself in enough trouble. With that, if someone can answer some of these questions, Senator Matzke, Senator Hall, Senator Bromm, I'd give the rest of my time to any of those three individuals that would like to take it. Senator Matzke, would you like to respond to some of my concerns?

SPEAKER WITHEM: You have 40 seconds.

SENATOR MATZKE: I'll do the best I can. I think what you say is essentially correct. Nebraska has a number of very fine adoption agencies, some are church connected and some, like the Nebraska Children's Home Society, are independent. They do a very careful job of consulting with birth mothers before and during the birth. And the old system that you referred to, that I think I first saw when I started practicing law, doesn't happen anymore. And they...the agencies make a real conscientious effort to locate the...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR MATZKE: ...the father for the very practical reason they want to get a relinquishment from him so that they know that adoption is going to be sound and never contested. And they do an excellent job of that in almost every case. And in those cases this law really isn't going to change things much. All it's going to do is say legally you're supposed to do what you're already doing. It gives them a fall back position. If they don't know who the father is, they can't find him or he's not designated then it gives them a legal procedure to, in effect, give him his day in court and terminate his rights. I don't know whether that fully answered your questions or not. I've got some additional time coming up and I'd be happy to respond further.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Unless your name is Ramon and they publish it in the local newspaper, is that right? (Laughter.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time. saved by the bell on that one I think.

SENATOR MATZKE: Or if your name is Gerald.