

states when it comes to religious organizations or operations that they have which are nonprofit, all of those are exempted already. No business would have to meet numerical quotas or participate in any affirmative action which means recruiting or whatever else that might mean in the minds of people because those things are specifically addressed in the bill and exempted as a part of the bill's requirement. All that the bill says is if there is somebody...

SENATOR CROSBY PRESIDING

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...able to do this job, this person has as much right for the opportunity which we say is available to every American to seek that job and if qualified, to receive it. If working the job and performing adequately to not be terminated because it is perceived that person's sexual orientation falls under the categories mentioned in this bill or because they are deemed to have a history of that type of orientation or are associated with that type of orientation, that would not be sufficient basis to fire them anymore than in these enlightened times it would be a basis to burn them at the stake.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Madam President, members of the body, and, Senator Chambers, I'm going to just speak for a few minutes and then I'll give you the rest of my time. I would just suggest to you, ladies and gentlemen, that this is an issue that is not going to go away. If we don't discuss it this year, then it will be before us next year or the next year. I think it is a very fundamental issue and I don't know if you all have gotten the same kinds of correspondence on this that I have, but, I mean, my correspondence has been not only from those who are homosexual, but from parents who have children that they are very concerned about. Some of these children have gone to college, have gotten advanced degrees, are highly educated and yet the parents are very worried about what is going to happen to them out in the workplace because they are not treated always in the manner that you and I would like to be treated. I think that one of the letters particularly from one of the churches was one that I would like to read to you that says it all as far as I'm concerned. It says that there is no legal, social or