

issue. As I understand it, as it's been explained, the mother would give up relinquishment of the child, the baby, the baby would then be placed in an adoptive home. If the father, the natural father would come back and want to claim custody the mother then could withdraw that relinquishment. Is there any time period, Senator Stuhr or Senator Matzke, time limit on that provision? Can the biological father...could it be six months, as Senator Bromm was talking about? Senator Stuhr, can you answer that?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Actually, you are discussing Section 17, which is not pertinent to this amendment.

SENATOR BOHLKE: I still want to know the answer.

SENATOR STUHR: Okay, all right, and Senator Matzke could address it.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Senator Matzke.

SENATOR MATZKE: There is no time frame set forth in LB 712, but this would be part of the court hearing and it would be limited by the court depending on what the circumstances are. This would come up at the hearing at which the biological father appeared and wanted to offer evidence in support of his claim for custody of the child. So it could occur, it would have to occur, of course, prior to the finalization of the adoption.

SENATOR BOHLKE: But that really wouldn't happen until the father appeared in court to claim custody?

SENATOR MATZKE: That's right.

SENATOR BOHLKE: And so that could be a long period of time?

SENATOR MATZKE: No, it wouldn't be a long period of time. Again, if you get the sequence of this...

SENATOR BOHLKE: That's what I'm trying...right.

SENATOR MATZKE: The sequence is that if the father signs a relinquishment and consent, you never even get to this question. If he doesn't do that, if he files a notice of intent to claim