

is even born to...at the time the child is born to put the child up for adoption. If they are going to start looking for the father, she is going to fill out this affidavit for identification of the father, and at that time, in a lot of cases, she doesn't know whether the child is a male or female, unless tests have been done to find out, and I think it's unnecessary to put the mother through any of those tests. So if we just simply strike this language, there won't be any misinformation out there as to what needs to be done and we just put the language, the child at issue herein, and we're just talking about the mother, under oath, affirming the following...the mother of the child that we're talking about, there's no need to put male or female in there and to have anybody out there thinking that she has to know what the sex of the child is. And it's just really a technical amendment because it can't be done unless you did some kind of a test and nobody that I've talked to on this bill wants to put a mother through any kind of an additional test of any sort to find out the gender of her child before she signs this affidavit. So it's something that needs to be done and I hope you will support the amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Matzke, on the Witek amendment.

SENATOR MATZKE: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, Senator Witek is right, this is a technical amendment, but I'm going to have to object to it. The affidavit of identification which we set forth in the amendment that I worked out with Senator Bromm says, I, blank, the mother of a (male or female) child, now that's merely a way of identifying, further identifying the child as either male or female. That's done in almost...that's done in birth certificates. That's done in all kinds of legal documents. There is a ridiculous concern expressed that using the word "male or female" might require women to be subjected to whatever the test it is before birth to determine whether a child is male or female, that's totally unnecessary. That is a wild fear that apparently some of the agencies had and they expressed the concern that they didn't want to have to subject women to this test, whatever it is, before birth to determine the sex of the child. That's absolutely ridiculous. All this is is a form where if the child has been born, you can strike out either male or female and you identify the child. Obviously, if the form is filled out before birth, it's going to be either a male or a female and you don't have to strike out either one. I think the language is