

perfectly adequate the way it is. I further object to Senator Witek's amendment because she would substitute in the language, "the child at issue herein". Now I'm trying to get rid of legalese in this form and in this entire procedure. And I'm sure that this must have been drawn by some lawyer who says the child at issue herein. What...let's keep legalese out of it as much as we can. It may seem ironical for me to suggest that but I think we need to eliminate the legalese. Let me make this suggestion. Senator Hall, has a similar amendment that's coming up down the line that would just strike out male or female. The language, the child at issue herein is certainly unnecessary. I would ask that we vote down this amendment. If the body wants to get rid of the terminology "male and female", let's do it a step later in Senator Hall's amendment. That would be a cleaner way of doing it. So I would ask you to not adopt this amendment and wait until we come to Senator Hall's amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Matzke. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President, and members, I rise in support of the concept that Senator Matzke just espoused. Either maybe possibly Senator Witek can withdraw this amendment...I would yield my time to Senator Witek.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: That's fine, as long as we strike the language, male or female, I will pull this amendment and we can go to Senator Hall's. He's got the next two amendments, the second one being the amendment that strikes male or female but still I don't think this is any little thing, Senator Matzke, because most people do not know the gender of their child before that child is born and, yes, it would make perfect sense to those of us who've been discussing this for hours and days on this to say, well, you could simply strike male or female. Well, you put that into some lawyer's hands and he wants to do everything by the book and I was told by the lawyer who wrote this bill of yours that she wants to do this to have everything...all of her ducks in a row so that there's no problems when these adoptions are done. So, to me, if you're telling somebody, through your language, and you put male or female in, they're going to have to determine, at that time, or think that they have to determine, unless they've listened to the debate on the floor of the Legislature, which most people don't do, so it is something that I think definitely does need to be done. And I hope people