

take custody of children that they've fathered, and take on that role that I think all of us would like to see people take when they've become a parent, and that is to provide for their children. And so the basic thrust of the bill is to provide the notice and the opportunity to those individuals to have the opportunity to intercede if they so desire. Now as we drafted the bill, as we worked on the bill, what we learned from the agencies and those involved was that in many cases this is a very difficult time for the mothers, and that as they are asked to put their child up for adoption, there is, in some cases, very hard feelings toward the father of those children or of that child. And the thought that their child would end up being adopted by the father is very untasteful to the mother, at best, and so they are very concerned about that and one of the arguments against giving notice was that you will impede adoptions because the mothers will not want to give information about who the father is because they won't want that father to get a chance to get custody because this would give them the notice. So we have, in an attempt to compromise, frankly, Senator Chambers, now I understand and acknowledge the point you are making. In fact, I agree with it, you make an excellent point, but we've got this in here to try to take away the disincentive for a mother to put their child up for adoption because of the fear of the father obtaining custody because of the notice that this bill requires. And so, to get to the notice provision of the bill, we've or, at least, I thought we ought to include this provision to ease the concern that we'd heard expressed at the hearings on this issue, to the bill we had last year, the hearings we had last year, and the hearings this year. So it is an attempt to allay the fear that is out there in some cases that to put your child up for adoption and to give information about the father, and then have the father notified, will end with the result being that instead of your child going to a family you may desire the child to go to, it will end up back with the father, who, as Senator Matzke said, may have abandoned you. And so this is a tightrope, there is no doubt about it. I would feel that the amendment is one that should be looked at and perhaps through a public hearing next year with a piece of legislation. It is not something that we've considered previously in the bill we had last year, interim studies, or anything. It hasn't come forward before, but the point being made is an excellent one. I would feel more comfort and going forward with the bill as it is now, and then reexamining the issue in the future. I am very concerned about the impact of the amendment Senator Chambers would have. I