

nine months, you've got five days. Five days. And on the mother's side, what we want to do is, if the body does not adopt the Chambers' amendment, what the body is then going to say to the mother, oh, by the way, go ahead and give up your right; go ahead and let the child go for adoption; but if you find that there is somebody you don't want to have the child, you can take the child back. Now tell me that's in the best interest of the child. Tell me that is even being responsible. Responsibility lasts...is on both ways, both sides, the mother has responsibilities too. And the Chambers' amendment basically says that, if a child is given up for adoption by the mother, that's it, but we will give her time to change her mind. We will give her 90 days. I felt 90 days, I agree with Senator Matzke, 90 days is way too long, so we cut the days down to 14. Whether or not you agree with the Chambers' amendment, 14 days is a more reasonable day than 90. That's why I offered the amendment. If the amendment doesn't go, that's fine. We will debate the Chambers' amendment. If that doesn't go, then we will go to the Bromm amendment. If that doesn't go, we will go to other amendments, but this issue needs to be debated, and it needs to be talked about. It is not a separate issue. It is the issue of parents, both male and female, taking responsibilities for their actions and trying to do what's in the best interest of the child. And the bottom line is no one in this body, and even the judges that make decisions will ever know what's in the best interest of the child. We will never know. All you can do is set up a system where we can try to put what we believe to be the child...in the best interest of that child, but we will never, ever know for sure. This simply changes it from 90 days to 14 days.

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Do what you wish with the amendment. I would urge its adoption.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. You have heard the closing. The question is the adoption of the Bernard-Stevens' amendment to the Chambers' amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed no. Record, Mr. Clerk. A record vote has been requested.

CLERK: (Read record vote. See page 1620 of the Legislative Journal.) 11 ayes, 21 nays, Madam President.