

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator.

SENATOR MATZKE: I doubt that I would have. In the first place, it would be important to have a hearing because we would have to have the input of the agency people, the counselors, the attorneys, the people who have had actual experience in dealing with this problem, and that's what we don't have. And we've tried to get that on short notice and we just can't get that kind of input. I...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: No, and I appreciate that, and...

SENATOR MATZKE: Well, I think, on the basis of my own personal experience, I would still have to oppose it because it is such a serious decision that you do a disservice to a woman to say, after she's thought about it during the entire nine months of pregnancy and she's made this decision, to say now this is a final decision but, oh, yes, you can change your mind. That belittles the seriousness of the decision and it raises all kinds of opportunities for litigation.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: But the mother can change her mind under the current system, can she not?

SENATOR MATZKE: No, she can't.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Once the decision is made for adoption and if she finds out that her exspouse may be able to get custody of the child, can she then change her mind?

SENATOR MATZKE: That's the provision that Senator Bromm's amendment will take out of the bill.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: But that is in the bill at this point?

SENATOR MATZKE: It's in the bill at this point but I have agreed...Senator Bromm has convinced me that that is a bad provision and he has an amendment that we will get to, taking that out of the bill.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Well, Senator Bromm, that's encour...thank you, Senator Matzke, and that's encouraging because maybe, Senator Matzke, if we keep harassing you on this amendment, we can convince you as well over a period of time that this is a good thing to do. I would like to make a