

so. I would also like to say that I am going to support this bill whether the amendment is adopted or not because I do think that it solves some of the problems in the adoption system. And I think that it is very critical that we remember that one of the people that we're trying to protect here is the child and, you know, I want to protect the birth mother, I want to protect the birth father, but I also want to protect the child and there's got to be a reasonable balance here. It is just heart rendering to see some of the kinds of pictures that we see in the paper of a child being ripped out of the parents' arms, the only parents he's ever known or she's ever known, and there's got to be...there's got to be a happy medium, a common ground. Having... having said that, I do support the waiting period and I have to tell you that I hate to bring this up but it is somewhat analogous to the waiting period that we have imposed on women who are seeking abortions, because, like the women in that case, women in this case have also gone through a very agonizing period and, in fact, there were some quotes in the paper in a World-Herald story I think it was not too long ago about one of the Senators on the floor saying that a waiting period would only prolong a birth mother's agony. In most cases, the mother has been struggling with the decision ever since she first learned she was pregnant. Those are the same arguments that were made on the 48-hour waiting period on the adoption issue. I voted for the waiting period on the abortion issue. I'm also going to vote for the waiting period on the adoption issue because I think that no matter how hard you struggle with a decision sometimes you do not know how you really feel until you find out that you can't change your mind. I would also, when the time comes, get up to strenuously oppose the Bromm amendment. I think that's an important concept in this bill. I think that if there is any time at all that the birth mother needs the opportunity to change her mind it's when her child that she has relinquished for adoption and...and... and that child she thinks is going to a family and instead it's going to somebody that she knows and maybe has no relationship with at all anymore, in fact would fear for her child if that person was given paternity, I think that she has a perfect right at that point to say the deal's off, this wasn't what I thought it was and I would...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ..I would strenuously oppose the Bromm amendment, so thank you very much.