

Matzke had...I've been offering this amendment just to take time. I'd waited until I finished, then asked for the call of the House and so forth. This is a very important bill and this amendment is important too. I've been here many years and I've heard us discuss different things about families. We've been in battles about abortion, whether the waiting period, whether talking about the circumstances and conditions under which an abortion will occur and every imaginable aspect of that issue we have debated and battled on at some time or other. Now we're at the point where a pregnancy has been carried to term. The young mother chose to do that and there are others who want her to give up her baby and for whatever reasons, whether it's because she hasn't completely thought out the situation, whether or not there is pressure brought to bear, or whether there has been undue influence by the attending physician, she agrees shortly after the child is born to sign away her rights forever to be the mother of that child. I'm saying we say we believe in families, we believe in the bonding between an infant and the infant's mother. We say those things are very important, but because those who want to adopt are...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ..are considered to be of a higher moral value than the birth mother, we say once she signs that paper she can never change her mind. But if people say they're going to adopt they have a period in which they can decide not to go through with the adoption so it's a one-way street. And if you're concerned about the welfare of the child why don't you say once the adoptive family gets into the picture, soon as they sign, that's it and they cannot back out, but they can. I say this is a vote which is principled, moral, fair and proper. I hope you will vote for this and I'm going to wait until we're all here, then I'll take a machine vote.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. We're waiting for Senator Fisher, Senator Withem, Senator Robak, Senator Schrock. Senator Brown, will you check in, please? Senator Vrtiska. We're waiting for Senators Robak and Fisher. The question before you is the adoption of the Chambers amendment to LB 712. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Please record.

CLERK: (Record vote read. See page 1939 of the Legislative Journal.) 9 ayes, 19 nays on the amendment, Madam President.