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FLOOR DEBATE

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omitted?

SENATOR AGUILAR: Well, it's my understanding there was members of the Judiciary Committee that were not comfortable with that language, and had stated that they would not vote the bill out of committee with that language in there.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Aguilar, and what you heard is correct. I'd like to ask Senator Foley a question.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Foley, would you yield, please?

SENATOR FOLEY: Yes, I would.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Foley, as a member of the committee, did you discuss with the other members the fact or the notion that sexual orientation should not be included on this list of reasons for not discriminating? Did you lead that effort?

SENATOR FOLEY: Well, I don't know if it's fair to say I led the effort. There was an amendment before us in Exec Session that would have put that term into the bill, and I, when that amendment was voted for or considered, I voted against that amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Did you talk to other members and persuade or suggest that they not vote for it also?

SENATOR FOLEY: I...it's quite possible I did, Senator. I don't recall. I don't think I needed to twist very many arms on that. I think the committee generally was opposed to that amendment, as evidenced by the vote.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So it's your view that if we have a gay man standing on the left side and a heterosexual man standing on the right side and both of them have committed the identical offense and the heterosexual is going to be allowed to get the benefits of the drug court, it's your belief that they should be able to discriminate against the gay man and bar him from the drug court program. That's your view, isn't it?