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LB 249

SENATOR THOMPSON: Senator Foley, I just want to know if you believe your amendment in any way diminishes the ability of schools to provide this information.

SENATOR FOLEY: Absolutely not.

SENATOR THOMPSON: And do you think it's important that school personnel...to me, this is like...is a health issue for these children who may be in this unfortunate situation. Do you think it's appropriate for them to be able to go to the school nurse or someone, trusted person, in the school for that information?

SENATOR FOLEY: Any student who finds themselves pregnant, I would anticipate that a school nurse might be one of the first places they would go. I would hope that they would go to their parents first, but I realize some children, young people, don't have that kind of a relationship with their parents. They might go to the school nurse first.

SENATOR THOMPSON: But it would be...you would say it would be appropriate for the school nurse to give them this information about going to a court.

SENATOR FOLEY: I'm not going to say what's appropriate or not. I'm just saying I don't want the schools to be used as a vehicle, under our state laws, to disseminate this information. I'm not going to require our public school systems to be the purveyors of this information. Now what they tell their...I have nothing in here, nothing in this bill or this amendment, that puts any restrictions on what public school personnel may or may not say to anyone.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Okay, so...

SENATOR FOLEY: And if I tried to do that, wouldn't it be an infringement of free speech?

SENATOR THOMPSON: Well, I guess my concern is I'm just trying to sort this out. I just want to be sure that what we're doing here today doesn't...the scenario I see is a young girl who's a