

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

January 12, 2004 LB 172

delivery agents of our political messages to students. State senators have been offering bills to get rid of this mandate for the past 12 years. It's time now to fix this problem, just as the public school associations have asked us to time and time again. We should no longer force our local public schools to be the unwilling subjects of a state mandate that creates more problems than it's worth. On Friday afternoon as I was preparing for this bill, I received an e-mail from a woman. I am going to circulate that e-mail to all of you, with the name of the person who sent it to me redacted. I ask for your indulgence. I'd like to read that e-mail into the public record. It reads: Dear Senator Foley. Oh, how I pray that you will be successful in passing LB 172. This bill is so important. I had an abortion at the age of 17 without my parents' consent or knowledge because I was too embarrassed to tell them I was pregnant. They found out about my abortion a month later and it broke their hearts. I've had to live with the consequences ever since. I chose abortion hoping to avoid disappointing my parents. Instead, I broke my parents' hearts and shattered my dreams. Please be encouraged knowing my prayers surround you. I know that if my parents had known I was pregnant, they would have surrounded me with love and helped me through it. I regret my decision every day. The thought that my teenage daughter could now be helped by her school to get an abortion without my consent scares me. I pray this bill will prevail.

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR FOLEY: Mr. President, I ask for the advance of LB 172. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Foley. You've heard the opening. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first amendment I have to the bill, Senator Foley, AM2025. You filed that with me last May, Senator, AM2025. (Legislative Journal, page 1991, First Session, 2003.)

SENATOR FOLEY: Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. Mr. President,