

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

January 12, 2004 LB 172

it's time to use the information. Now, I think that if we had a concern, as Senator Landis does, and it's legitimate, about parents who cannot be trusted, then in fact we want to make sure that this information is out. But is it? I'm convinced it is. Certainly, when a young woman goes to any kind of clinic or counselor and they are looking for information about this problem, and looking for help, that information should be there. That's not a school handbook. That's not a packet of forms at the beginning of the school year. That's in the moment, the moment when they need that information. If we believed that clinics were not giving this information out, then we might have a concern. If that were the concern, then we should be placing the mandate there. I just don't understand why we're putting the mandate on schools. I know that we did disseminate this information on the school board every year. And we were so conscientious that we wanted to make sure that those forms came back signed, because we wanted to be able to prove that we had complied with the law. So when we passed out our handbooks, we required every parent and student to sign that handbook...or sign a form saying that they had not only received it, but read it. We weren't naive enough to believe that they probably had read every word, but we wanted them to know that they should. And that was really where our burden lay, was collecting all of those forms. That took a lot of time. So I think that, again, the question is, where would the information be most beneficial, most useful to the person needing the information? And I don't believe a school handbook or the starting...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR REDFIELD: ...fall of the school year is the most useful place for that information. I'm going to support Senator Foley's bill. I am not going to support the motion before us. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Redfield. Senator Friend.

SENATOR FRIEND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Briefly, I don't want to tread on any...it's almost impossible to not tread on the ground that's already been laid out there. Three key points that come to mind right now for me right at this moment. One of