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FLOOR DEBATE

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needs a fleshing out of the record. People need to see the developmental discussion that took place before a final vote. The arguments I reject out of hand that have been made: Number one, that this is burdensome on the schools--absolutely not; that it is an unreasonable duty to assign to the schools, whether burdensome or not. I don't think it's unreasonable; I think it is eminently reasonable, and it is a duty that the schools should assume, and they should assume this duty with a song in their little Grinch-like hearts. The argument that some people want to make that this is not an abortion issue, Senator Foley and I both have given the lie to that position. Only abortion is what brought us here, because it was an abortion bill that resulted in this mitigating statute. This is about abortion. There are members on the floor of this Legislature who would do everything they can to restrict a woman's right to an abortion, and I will do everything I can to resist them and prevent them from being successful. Are senators going to get annoyed because debates take a long time? So what if they do? That has never been of any consequence to me. I'm not here to please my colleagues or take care of their petty annoyances and all the other things that upset them. Part of my job is to make them upset. If you're going to be upset at somebody, be upset at the one who brings this kind of legislation. Be upset at Senator Foley, the man who I would describe as a long drink of water. Senator Foley and I will see eye to eye...well, wait a minute, we will agree on certain issues, but we can't really see eye to eye because he's up in the clouds and I'm down here among the mulberry bushes. But figuratively speaking, there will be issues on which Senator Foley and I will be eye to eye as far as agreement. Issues of this kind in the abortion arena, we will neither of us give an inch or a centimeter. I am prepared to go the entire session on this one bill, although nobody else is. If somehow you can get 33 votes to cut off all debate, you're going to have to get 33 votes across the board, and you might have to get 33 votes on some bills which ordinarily you wouldn't have to. That's my agenda. That is my strategy. And I have the right, under the rules, to do it. And I will do it within and...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.