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LB 280, 299, 622

discuss and debate, go through the hearing process on and those types of things if we want to actually make those decisions on policy. But what we're talking about on 280 is different. It's an entirely different decision for me. So, for me to think about...and I'm not going to vote for your amendment, and I didn't vote for your last amendment. But it wasn't because I don't want to talk about the policy of common sense in people getting.. making a decision on whether to contractually marry someone. Do you ask them about their past history of abuse? Do you ask them about these things? I'm trying to get to the point of, (LB) 280 was, should we allow, contractually, same-sex individuals to contract with each other to marry because.... Now after that decision is made, you talk about all of the...domestic partnership, those types of things. I mean, that's a different discussion. I guess I wanted to just stay with the concept of 280 with that decision, and then look at your amendment, I'll have to vote against your amendment, but not because it's not worthy...as you called it, and I don't make those distinctions, but that was your word...worthy...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR WITEK: ...for discussion, but because the concept is, this individual made a contract to marry somebody, and the occurrence of abuse happened after that contract was made. So I hope you understand the distinction when I vote against your amendments, because I know you're trying to bring these moral concepts to the floor, which I know this is unusual, me talking about bringing the moral concepts to the floor. To me, this is, do we make a policy decision on whether we allow people of the same gender to contract with each other for marriage. Boom. So you're the one bringing this more moral concept on to the floor, which I'm not opposed to discussing,...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR WITEK: ...but it's not the same concept. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Mr. Clerk, items?

CLERK: Madam President, amendments to be printed. Senator Suttle to (LB) 299, Senator Chris Peterson to (LB) 622. Revenue