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LB 172, 249

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes, would you respond?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Raikes, why could not we substitute the word "may" for "shall" in 71-6909? Then we would have a situation described by Senator Foley where this information can be given. If we strike the section altogether, any school that would offer this information I'm sure would be set upon by the antiabortion people criticizing and saying that teacher should be fired, the principal should be fired, the counselor should be fired for giving information that they...that is not within their province to give. And in listening to the discussion here today, the only reason for doing this apparently is that the education lobby, as Senator Stuhr described them, don't want the schools to do this. The question I will ask you first is the easy one. What motivating force other than the education lobby was behind this bill to...the one that would prohibit the granting of this or strike the language that allows this information to be given in schools?

SENATOR RAIKES: Senator, I don't know that I can give you a good answer for that. Senator Foley, as I recall, introduced the bill which came before the committee. There were a number of testifiers, including representatives of school systems, and...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Then why don't I ask him?

SENATOR RAIKES: That would be fine.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. I didn't know who had introduced the bill originally. Senator Foley, I will ask you that question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Foley.

SENATOR FOLEY: Yes, very good. I did introduce the bill. It's LB 172. You can find the committee statement for it. But anyway, I can read for you, if you'd like me to, Senator, the list of proponents of the bill. Would that be helpful?