

March 6, 1979

LB 59

SENATOR KOCH: Yes, at the time that the youngster progresses into the seventh grade, that is the time that they will expect another physical examination and the doctors receipt or slip to demonstrate that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: All right. Now suppose we have a situation where a parent has put in writing that he or she does not want the child immunized and the child progresses through school and reaches the twelfth grade, let's say the eighth grade, and suddenly maybe takes a science course and realizes what diseases can befall him or her and decides to get the immunizations himself or herself, would that child be allowed to do that?

SENATOR KOCH: I suppose if that child were precocious enough to do it and go to his physician or whoever that person might be and say I want to be immunized, yes, but nothing in this bill would restrain that child from doing that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Would you be opposed to amending this bill to make that option open to a child?

SENATOR KOCH: To allow the child on his own volition?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Just like a child can decide to have an abortion without contacting the parents, should we allow the child to do something which is affirmatively for his or her health by allowing the child to obtain immunization?

SENATOR KOCH: Senator Chambers, I understand your intent and I am equally intent in terms of trying to provide these measures as a precaution. If you believe it adds to the intent of the bill, I guess I would not be opposed to saying that a child of his volition could do this.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And I am not going to do it right now. I am going to check into it but I want to alert you.

SENATOR KOCH: All right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Koch. And members of the Legislature, since this is a bill relating to the welfare of children, on Select File, I am going to attempt to put the provisions of LB 63 into LB 59. It amends the same chapter of the statute and it relates, since we are going to do some things, we may as well do them all right,