

parents have for not letting their children's health be taken care of but to protect the welfare of other children whose rights to health and safety cannot be jeopardized because of the practice of religion by some third party and one other thing. With the way this law is which allows the avoidance of immunization, the child cannot attend school, if I read the bill correctly, until that provision of law is complied with. So the child is punished twice, intellectually because, Senator Lamb, not only will they not have to learn about autism or some compassion for those of their fellows who are less fortunate, they won't be able to learn about anything because they will not go to school and there is another provision of law which says that a parent which withholds from his or her child education, that parent is guilty of neglect and somebody can then file a petition with the juvenile court to have appropriate action taken and that can include having the child removed from the parent's custody, an order entered for the welfare of the child and whatever other action is necessary to make sure that in a society like this every child receives the chance for an education. Now the first punishment would be intellectual. The second could be physical. The health of a child can be destroyed because of the foolishness of the parent and even when God told Abraham to kill his son, Isaac, he had a second thought and said, fool, don't do it. I thought you would have better sense but since you are going to truss your son up like a pig or a cow or a chicken and kill him, I have to intervene here and stop you, and an angel went down there and stayed Abraham's hand because he was going to kill his son and the angel might have slapped him too and said, wake up. So what we have the opportunity to do here is protect the welfare of the children which I don't think is a high priority sometimes. Now if you have this bill in the form that it is, what of the other children's welfare whose parents are not motivated by religion or anything else, to play fast and loose with their children's health? If you want to reject the amendment I still think that the bill ought to be passed but think of what you are doing when you reject it. You are saying that the child need not even obtain a physical examination.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Koch, for what purpose is your request?

SENATOR KOCH: A question of the Chair.

SENATOR MARSH: Yes.