

January 16, 1980

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accommodate you and will offer an amendment to straighten that out.

SENATOR VICKERS: Okay, I thank you for that. Now let me ask you another question in regard to the points that Senator Warner was raising. Due to the fact that you are making this retroactive so to speak, let's assume that some parents gave up a child for adoption ten years ago and really feel strongly, or twenty-five years ago, thirty years ago, but really feel strongly that they would have signed the consent form had the consent form been available at that time or they would have signed so that they wouldn't have given consent, now what happens now?

SENATOR NEWELL: They still have, you see, it has to go through an agency. They have to agree.

SENATOR VICKERS: They still have to give their consent?

SENATOR NEWELL: They still have to agree, that is correct. What happens is the agency says, Senator Vickers, as a biological...let me use somebody else, let me use, Bill Smith, your biological daughter is now trying to find you and, consequently, we are asking you if you are willing to meet with your biological daughter, you may say, no, and if you do, then the meeting cannot take place.

SENATOR VICKERS: Okay. In other words, if the parents, biological parents say no, no matter how long a time has been passed, then (interruption).

SENATOR NEWELL: That is correct, or if the child says no. If you as a biological parent tries to get in contact with your child, now you can't do it all, you can't even go through this process unless that child would have....

SENATOR VICKERS: Is agreeable?

SENATOR NEWELL: No, reached the age of twenty-five. It has to be twenty-five years old before you can even try to do this, but if they say, no, I don't want to see that no good so-and-so, then that will not happen.

SENATOR VICKERS: Okay, and you will attempt to amend?

SENATOR NEWELL: Yes, and that will be amended. Yes, I appreciate the point.

SENATOR VICKERS: Okay, thank you.