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The Week Inside New Jersey Politics

HEALTHY, HAPPY AND HOT

Things got hot and heavy at Thursday's Assembly [Budget](#) Committee hearing during a debate over whether to restore \$7.5 million in funding to family planning centers that Gov. Chris Christie cut from the coming year's budget.

The assemblymen going at it were Lou Greenwald, the Democratic budget committee chairman, and Jay Webber, the Republican state committee chair, who got Greenwald fired up when he attacked Planned Parenthood, which was slated to receive some of the money.

It began when Webber started reading aloud from a brochure from the International Planned Parenthood Federation titled "Healthy, Happy and Hot," which is described as "a guide for young people living with HIV to help them understand their sexual rights, and live healthy, fun, happy and sexually fulfilling lives."

Some of literature clearly offended lawmakers, and Assemblywoman Joan Quigley asked him to stop.

"This is exactly the kind of material they put out," Webber said. "It's not the kind of material I want my children seeing. It's not the kind of material I want kids in this state to see.

"This is why people don't support Planned Parenthood in this state," Webber continued. "I think this is why the governor has objections to further subsidizing this organization that suggests to our young people ... this is the appropriate way to think."

In response to statistics showing how much money the state saved by preventing unwanted pregnancies, Webber, of Whippany, said the health care centers were trying to stop women from having children — in particular, poor women.

"To put a price tag on children in our state and to suggest to lawmakers that they should be eager to prevent children ... children in our state are our future and we don't need less of them, we need more," Webber said.

Greenwald cut him off, accusing him of getting off the topic. Webber protested, saying he was being shut down, to which Greenwald responded: "I am the chairman of this committee and I will handle the debate as I choose."