

What has begun to happen is what has needed to happen all the time and that is that the people who are in the middle in this issue in the Legislature have this time spoken more freely, more flexibly with their votes choosing one alternative over another and not blindly following one point of view or the other. It has meant that the body has made policy and that's been helpful. A second thing that's been helpful is that there has been an absence of threats either whether it's to other issues, to electoral fate or anything else. A third thing that's happened this year which I appreciate is the failure to tie the fate of this bill to the fates of other bills or other legislative agendas. And, frankly, this is new and valuable. It signaled, I think, a maturation in our debate on this issue. Now that doesn't mean I agree with the results that we're going to arrive at and I don't and I want to shift to the second point that I want to make which is to reiterate personally rather than by my silence the point that Senator Rasmussen so eloquently just stated. This bill will not further the cause of young women. Those who tell their parents, and that represents the majority, don't need this bill. Those that do not tell their parents, about a quarter of them, to the documentation that's clearly established in our Judiciary Committee hearings of the last two years, have darn good reasons not to tell their parents. And this methodology is still not sensitive enough to deal with this final one quarter who don't need the coercion of a bill to tell their parents because they have a reason not to tell their parents that's pretty darn good, whether it's abuse, whether it's incest, whether it's a breakdown in communication, whether it's a fear of being thrown out of their house, their desire to run away, the approbation that they may feel, all of those. So my point that I want to raise here is that LB 425 undoubtedly will pass and it will be a victory in the eyes and minds of many Nebraskans but it will be a victory because it moves ahead an agenda of ending abortions. It will not be the alleged proffered goal of 425 which is to improve family communications, or to give young women caring, helpful advice. That is not the agenda that will be moved forward. We would have made many other mitigating amendments if that had been the desire. It's not the desire...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...and the goal will be one step forward with the passage of 425. I am indifferent to that goal. I, on the other hand, find it a form of hypocrisy that that goal is