

January 30, 1992 LB 671, 696

circumstances, fair enough. Make it a general standard for all, make it a standard for doctors to do, standard practice for nursing homes or physicians, fair enough. But working it into this one circumstance, not working it into LB 696, and not working it into any other circumstance, and making the living will triggered on doing this act which is not required any place else in Nebraska law simply means that you're making the living will less usable. Lastly, the living will is subject to the instructions of a patient. A patient may write in their living will, please notify my family, I direct you to notify my immediate family, and they are, and here are their names. In so doing it becomes the affirmative obligation of the doctor or the nursing home to do exactly that. A patient has the absolute power, in writing the living will, to accomplish this same end. This amendment to the amendment is better, and I'm going to vote for it. When it comes time to voting for the amendment itself, in its current form, as a condition to the trigger, as a way of back-dooring the second opinion, as a way of doing something in this area unlike any other area, including 696, I'm going to oppose it. I will tell you this, Tim Hall raises a good point. Dave, can't we be a little more human, can't we recognize family relationships. And I say that's fair, but it has to be done evenhandedly, and it has to be done across the board rather than working it into this one situation when there are as many like it that might be applicable. So I'll vote for this amendment to the amendment and then I'll urge you to vote against the amendment itself.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Madam President, members of the body, I have a couple of questions. I think, Senator Lindsay,...

SENATOR LINDSAY: Yes.

SENATOR ROBINSON: How do you define immediate family?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Pardon me.

SENATOR ROBINSON: How do you define immediate family?

SENATOR LINDSAY: I believe it's just generally defined as, your immediate family would be your spouse and children.

SENATOR ROBINSON: What is you...what if you...