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or testimony that would substantiate such a claim to a state district court or judge or if a state district court judge is not available in the county where the minor resides or the abortion is to be performed, to a county court or judge. All of the notification requirements would be waived if a court or judge finds that a minor is mature enough to make the decision independently or that notification would not be in her best interest. This particular subsection is included in the amendment to allow any minor who wishes to make a claim of maturity or independence the opportunity to present evidence to a court to prove the validity of such a claim. I feel that a judge would be the most appropriate individual to make such a determination. A physician simply should not be required to make a determination of a minor's maturity or a family situation. Subsection 2 also provides the court shall expedite all proceedings filed by a minor and render a decision within twenty-four hours of the initial proceeding. In subsection 3 of the amendment, all of the notification requirements would be waived if an emergency situation exists and is certified as an emergency by the attending physician. I believe adoption of this amendment is crucial in ensuring that responsible medical care is provided to minors who undergo abortions. I urge the adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR NICHOL PRESIDING

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Clerk, you have an amendment to the amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Vard Johnson moves to amend the Labeledz amendment. (Read the V. Johnson amendment as found on page 1663 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, my particular amendment is a very easy amendment to understand. Senator Labeledz would require every minor who presents herself to a physician for an abortion, would require that physician to notify that minor's parent or parents or guardian that the minor is requesting the abortion service. My amendment says that that requirement shall only apply to minors who are less than 16 years of age. Now I do hope this body will hear me out. I recognize that in this area constitutional arguments fall on what so far have been deaf ears, but I