

their business. All they do all day long is perform abortions. I certainly do not think the courts should have to provide this information to physicians or anyone else unless we are going to require the courts to provide the same type of information on all civil cases. Senator Lynch mentioned sexual abuse, incest. Section 6 of the bill, in the original bill, Senator Lynch, has been deleted. As amended, Section 6 now provides that notification will not be required for three different reasons; the abortion is necessary to prevent the woman's death and there is not enough time to provide the required notification. Number two, the abortion is authorized in writing by the person who is entitled to notification. In other words, they get the notification done before they even go to the doctor that is performing the abortion. And, number three, the pregnant woman declares that she is a victim of sexual abuse, neglect, or physical abuse. She does not, at that point, have to go the judicial bypass. The doctor then will perform the abortion. His only other duty will be that he has to inform the police or law enforcement that there has been sexual abuse, neglect, or physical abuse, which also includes incest. I urge the members of the body to defeat the amendment that was introduced by Senator Lynch. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I stand, again, in support of this amendment. I find... I think maybe a lot of us are in the same position with Senator Landis on one side of this issue talking about a nationwide effort on behalf of the pro-life movement and, possibly, Senator Labeledz on the other side of this issue. But I have struggled with this because I am not on either side of this issue. I haven't taken a polar position on one side or the other. I am concerned about the unborn. I am concerned about the born, the people who are living today, and I think if Senator Landis's side of the issue, or Senator Labeledz's side of the issue would start to talk about these things, maybe we could reduce the number of abortions in our society, and I do think that parental notification is a positive thing, and I think if it is handled in a compassionate way, I think that it could possibly result in a decrease in the number of abortions. I think what Senator Lynch has done here has really struck at an issue. The bill has been amended to change some of the concerns that I had originally, but what Senator Lynch is doing here is he is requiring that information be provided at the early stages, and that that information be