

May 2, 1989

LB 769

'84-85 we have 89 people, and on through '87-88 another 101. LB 769 looks at a problem on one side, on the abortion side. The amendment we would like the courtesy to have the body talk about, by suspending the rules, looks at the other side, so we have a whole picture. And I'll give the rest of my opening to Senator Schimek. But I do what to respond in one area. Some people have said that this amendment is an attempt to gut the bill, it's an attempt to hurt the bill. For those people that co-sponsored L 769 nothing could be further from the truth. I would hope that you would think I'm more intelligent than that. I certainly would not put an amendment, almost three weeks ahead before the discussion, in the Journal, if I expected that amendment to have some...to make a...to be accepted for a bill. Nothing could be further from the truth. I'm going to support 769 with or without my particular amendment. But I think the amendment is needed, and I think we need to go that route.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I'll give the rest of my time to Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Mr. President and members of the body, may I ask, is my light on next?

PRESIDENT: No, it's seventh.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Oh, I forgot to turn my on. Oh, dear. Then I will be brief in my beginning remarks on this. But I guess Senator Bernard-Stevens really hit the nail on the head. There is a connection between the bill and this amendment. He has very adequately, in spite of feeling on his death bed today I guess, he has very adequately explained that connection and what the amendment is all about. I guess I'd also like to focus on our attitude towards pregnant children, and I do say children because sometimes these pregnancies are 11-year olds, 12-years old, and so forth. And I know that traditionally in our school systems, not necessarily in recent years, but traditionally we have branded some of these young students who have been pregnant and we have encouraged them to get out of the school system rather than staying in the school system.

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I would like to see us talk about changing