

they can support their children and that's certainly my interest in this so that we can support them. We have had many good ideas for amendments but, at this point, it's best not to amend the bill. It's basic...we need to keep the bill simple. But there are many, many programs that can be utilized to help these young women. That's not really the point of the bill but it's something that is necessary for those of us who do have compassion. And to be called uncompassionate, is really not fair. And I just wanted to point that out, I mean, I have a handful of pamphlets that show programs that we can use for young women who find themselves pregnant and I will reiterate the same thing I said the other day. Should my daughter come to me pregnant, certainly I am not going to beat her. I am going to try to help her if she chooses, which would not be my choice, but I cannot force her to bear that child, but I want to be sure that she has the very best medical care available. I don't want her life ruined, as many young women's have been, thinking that a surgical procedure may not result in a tremendous injury. And so that's why a lot of us have signed onto this bill. We believe that it would be ultimately a help to families. And I think that all of us would consider amendments on other bills or other bills or increased funding for Title XX funds and things of that nature and I guess I will have to close with that. Let's send the bill on. Let's keep it...keep it simple so that we're just dealing with one issue and add these things to other...to other bills, and I think if we could send it on now to Select File and at that point perhaps, as the prophet, Isaiah said, Senator Chambers, perhaps we could come now and reason together to be sure that the bill is a good one. But let's at least send it on to Select File. And I do support Senator Labeledz and the other 28 senators who signed onto this bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, this is the first time that I have talked on the bill. I am a co-sponsor of it along with 27 or 28 other senators, and the reason that I co-sponsored because I felt it was the right way to go. And I certainly want to commend Senator Labeledz for bringing that bill to us. But I think where a lot of the senators are confused, this is a parental notification bill. It isn't a consent. The parents do not have to sign any papers or anything. But all the doctor needs to do is notify the parents in writing. And so I certainly think this is the right to go. I feel that these girls need help. They need help at this time