

May 3, 1989

LB 769

define that word?

SENATOR LABEDZ: Read the statutes. Any child that is neglected...

SENATOR SMITH: What does neglect mean?

SENATOR LABEDZ: A teacher, a school counselor, anyone will notice a child in school that's been neglected.

SENATOR SMITH: So this girl can say, I am neglected, and she can have an abortion. Is that what you're saying?

SENATOR LABEDZ: If she can...if she says she is neglected, sexually abused, physically abused, it will have to be reported to the authorities.

SENATOR SMITH: Are you talking about three or one of the three? One of the three or all three?

SENATOR LABEDZ: One of the three, any of the three, sexually, physically...

SENATOR SMITH: Or neglect.

SENATOR LABEDZ: ...or neglect.

SENATOR SMITH: All right, so now we have a girl who is pregnant, she may be 12, 13 years old. She goes to the doctor...I don't know how she knows to go to the doctor but she finally reaches the point where she has to go to a doctor, evidently. She hasn't told her parents, she probably told some of her friends. They probably all have given her all these back door ideas and so she has now gone to a doctor. Okay, so she tells the doctor, I've been neglected. So the doctor says, okay, all I have to do now is, you can have the...you can have an abortion, it's that simple. Then what's the purpose of this bill?

SENATOR LABEDZ: Because then it has to be reported to the law enforcement agency.

SENATOR SMITH: All right, and when it's reported to the law enforcement agencies, as you just said, what follows?