

May 3, 1989

LB 769

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time has expired. Senator Labeledz, please, followed by Senators Beck, Chambers and Nelson.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Schmit...Smith, I'm sorry, in the statutes, under terms defined, abuse or neglect shall mean knowingly, intentionally or negligently causing or permitting a minor child or an incompetent or disabled person to be placed in a situation that endangers his or her life or physical or mental health; cruelly confined or cruelly punished; deprived of food, clothing, shelter or care; left unattended in a motor vehicle. If such minor child is sexually exploited by allowing, encouraging or forcing such person to solicit or engage in prostitution, debauchery, public indecency or obscene or pornographic photography, films or depictions. Now you wanted a definition of abuse or neglect and there is it.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Beck.

SENATOR BECK: I would like to call the question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Shall debate now cease? May I see five hands? I do. Shall debate? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Shall debate cease? Have you all voted? Record, please.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 12 ayes, 11 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate does not cease. Senator Chambers, followed by Senator Nelson.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I hope you got an object lesson from what just happened when Senator Smith was interrogating Senator Labeledz. First of all, Senator Labeledz didn't know the categories that would entitle a girl not to have to tell her parents. Now she is the introducer of the bill and she had to read the statute. In addition to that, when Senator Smith asked what neglect means, Senator Labeledz had a lawyer frantically scrambling through the statutes to find a definition. So the introducer didn't know, her lawyer didn't know but a traumatized young girl is supposed to know. That's what we're dealing with. And I want some of you all to think of some of the other kind of legislation you have got in this Legislature to pass. And I want you to consider what LB 211 is about. This is not an honest bill. This is one of