

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Nelson, please, followed by Senator Hefner.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I will probably support Senator Chambers on this amendment because I really don't think it makes any difference, because that 13-year-old girl will be so mortified and so horrified that she will not understand and will not know what she is...what she is or is not supposed to do. I still have to say this is a bill to harass the ones that are the most traumatic time in their life. I'm like Senator Smith, I think it's unfortunate that a bill like this was brought to the Legislature and so many people just rather...the issue is not whether you believe or do not believe in abortion, the issue is to get your foot in the door and then put the Legislature and all of us on hot seats. Senator Hannibal said it exactly right yesterday. For any of us to even stand up here and address this issue, you just as well kiss your next term good-bye because that's exactly how emotional this issue is. I remember when I was running for election. I came home one night and I told my husband if there is any issue that would make me not run as a state senator it is this issue. There is no give and take. I would hope that we could make this the best bill that we can possibly make but I...I am becoming more and more incensed that a bill like this is brought to us. So many people were led so blindly into signing onto it. I hope that each and every one of you now know what's in the bill. I was the only one in Judiciary Committee that did not vote to get the bill out. I could see the problems. It has been amended better...a much better bill than it was at that time. It will be very interesting to note, we have LB 211 coming up, about the next bill, or so, will be addressed this same afternoon. That bill says that the county attorneys, and so on, have to have, I believe it's five years now, time to process child abuse and sexual abuse cases because these young girls, 12, 13, 11 years old, simply do not know whether they have been sexually abused until they get to be 14, 16. They may think this incest in the family is a normal procedure. So in the next bill coming up we will be debating, yes, we must extend the term because these girls do not know what they're doing. And then yet we're standing here on this bill subjecting those girls to a court case or to face the judges or to face the people. It's not abortion or not abortion but that's what it's leading to is the issue. The state legislators will be putting on...this will be tried and tried and tried again. As proof has said, the court