

tension in this body we can't overcome our emotional problems of our anger because of what a senator says, if we can't do that, what will a child do under 10 times more emotional stress under situations that you can I can't even imagine? This is a good amendment, even if you're pro 769 all the way, it is a good amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that Senator Bernard-Stevens has hit on the essence of the problem with the bill. And it is that particular provision. There are other problems but that one really...really is a problem, because what you...what we have done by striking the Lynch amendments is we have not required the physician, we have not required the school counselor, we have not required the individuals who are involved with this young woman to notify her of her rights. So what we're doing is we're sending this young woman into the abortion clinic, if you will, and, as Senator Labeledz suggested, the doctor, I am sure, will explain her rights. If she says she has been neglected or abused, the doctor will say, well, you better make sure you're telling the truth because if you're not, you could be convicted of a Class I misdemeanor. That isn't...that isn't what's going to happen. That isn't what's going to happen. Again, we're going to...let's...we have to center on that 21 to 25 percent of the...of the young women who are not informed, who come from dysfunctional families, they're going to be thrust into this situation. We're going to be compounding their problems without giving them the kind of knowledge or education that they need to make an informed decision. And it's beyond me why this body will not allow that to happen. It's beyond me why this body would vote down an amendment which would educate these young girls so they could make an informed decision. Seventy-five percent of...pursuant to the Minnesota experience, 75 percent of 15-year-old or younger girls consulted with their parents prior to an abortion, after the Minnesota law was passed. This is not a notification bill. Notification occurs, in most cases, in a functional family. Notification does not occur in a dysfunctional family, in most cases. This bill does not solve that problem. This bill simply, quite frankly, the way it is now written without any component in there for education, without any component in there for funding of these types of cases, education for these types of cases, simply...simply points out or selects out these individuals least likely or least able to make an informed decision, for