

attending physician is?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Correct.

SENATOR SMITH: It would be the person who would be performing the abortion.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay, I wanted to clarify that so we didn't have any confusion that a pregnant woman going to a doctor, for example, who is traditionally called her attending physician, that that particular person is not, in fact, the attending physician that we are referring to in this particular amendment, and I wanted to make sure that was clear on the record. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, please, followed by Senator Smith and Senator Rogers.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, and members of the body, I, too, support Senator Smith, anything that can help us over these very difficult times and this particular legislation. It encompasses much, much more than we are led to believe, and Senator Smith just clarifies a little bit more the Judiciary amendments, and I think that many of us all have the same goal in mind. None of us like the issue of abortion but that issue is in front of us today and we must deal with it and do the best that we possibly can. I guess that for this time I will not elaborate any more. I do want to point out and I think it is very good and I hope the body today in all of this deliberation remembers this. Last Saturday, I believe it was, in the Church Briefs: "Abortion issue is not a simple issue. Leaders of 10 Protestant denominations urge an end to polarization and sloganeering about abortion, terming it a complex moral issue that can't be reduced to 'simple rights and wrongs, pros and cons.'" Today I hope that we try to work out one way or the other the best that we can do for our young people. "In a joint statement issued by the Episcopal presiding bishop, the church leader said discussion of abortion should 'encourage sensitive listening to all sides' of the issue. 'We, as religious leaders, have the insights to offer from our various faith traditions about both the sacredness of life and the importance of informed personal conscience that have come out of years of prayer, study, and debate.' Although the signers hold different views of abortion, they said they were united in a 'deep and abiding reverence for both the mystery of human life and the freedom of human