

in poverty, I mean poor as in structure and communication. So I wanted to give the teenager a chance instead of just lying and forging a note, which Senator Labeledz and the 30 people or 28 co-sponsors would like to have done, instead of saying, hey, listen, all you have to do is forge a note, give it to the doctor and he's going to be able to do the abortion and you're not going to tell your parents because you don't have to, instead of passing a bill like that, I wanted to give them a chance to give them a broader group of people to talk...to notify. So the amendment that I have on line 3, on page 1, or line 4, page 1 says I'd like to put "notify parent, guardian or adult family member", adult, because what I'm trying to do with my amendment is to bring adult participation in a major decision to be made by an adolescent. And, quite honestly, I think that's what the body wants. I think that's what Nebraskans want. They want teenagers who are in pregnancy to go to an adult for help, any adult that they feel safe and comfortable with and secure enough to tell these secrets and these tragic events that have affected their lives and will affect their lives. Quite honestly, I wanted to offer an amendment to my amendment, which I am not going to be allowed to do because a suspension order was filed even the day I filed this amendment that would enlarge that to adult. And, again, how much time do I have left, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Approximately four minutes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you. I wanted to increase this to simply that they have a chance to go with an adult because many times there isn't even an adult family member. And some people say, well, that could be anybody, that could be any adult, that could be an older brother or an older friend or a boyfriend. I said, that's right. It could be but, at least, it's an adult and they will be notified. The next thing in the amendment, members of the body, if you pay a little bit of attention at all to the amendment or take it seriously at all is that the pregnant girl also must go to a counselor. And on page 1, starting on line 10, I go through and define what a counselor shall mean. A counselor will mean a psychiatrist, a psychologist, a physician, social worker, ordained member of the clergy, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, registered nurse or practical nurse, and I am sure there are others I could have put in that I just did not think of at the time. And these counselors, if you go on then to page 2, are going to be responsible for going through a litany of informative issues