

are discussing LB 769, the parental notification bill, and I am a co-sponsor of that and I support it. And I want to tell you a few reasons why I support that. This bill says that, before a doctor can perform an abortion to an underage girl, a parent would have to be notified, and I think that is only right. I think that is only fair because we are concerned about our underage girls, at least I am. I also can tell you that I am against abortion because I feel that it destroys life. I feel it is murder, and when a young girl becomes pregnant, she is under a lot of stress, and so I feel it only right that a parent would be able to talk to her. In our family, we had two boys and one girl, and I loved them dearly, and I believe that is very important that that parent be notified before that girl can have an abortion, especially when she is underage. If she is overage, well, that is a little bit different, but I would still be against her having that abortion. Okay, let's analyze a few other things when a parent has to be notified. If a girl wants to have her ears pierced, the person piercing these ears will not do it to an underage girl unless she has her parent's consent. Is that as important as an abortion? I don't think so. Also I heard awhile back that a school nurse wouldn't give an underage student an aspirin unless she called the parents, which I doubt whether that is necessary or not, but that is how far they are going, but yet we say an underage girl can have an abortion without notifying her parents. So I think we need to get our priorities in order. Senator Bernard-Stevens, you said the other day that you are sincere, you are very sincere, and so I would just ask you, and I guess I would plead with you to let us take a vote on this. We have been on it, this is the fourth day this session. Last session we was on it six or seven or maybe even eight days, I can't remember anymore, but we were on it a long time. And so to the opponents, I just wish that you would let us take it up and vote on this issue, and you certainly will have an opportunity to add amendments on Select File, so I am going to support the Chair.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Labedz, please.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. President. I passed when you called on me at the beginning because I thought we were discussing a motion to call the question, but since Senator Landis got up and said a few words on the abortion issue, I thought maybe I had better respond. He said that LB 769 does not in any way help the unity of the family, but I will ask him to answer when he has his own time whether or not we shouldn't