

be plenty of time, I suspect, to say your feelings on the issue as well, because I know they're there, and it would be nice to get everyone's on the record, no matter how condemning they are towards one side or another. With that, I conclude at least the opening remarks. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, please, followed by Senator McFarland, Senator Labedz and Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Nelson, please.

SENATOR NELSON: I again want to remind the body, and I think Senator Lindsay will concur with me having heard this bill in Judiciary Committee that what we're talking about here is constitutional suspect. And, as a body, we are standing here wasting hours, and hours, and hours again on maybe in hopes a court decision will come down in one's favor or another favor. And I almost think it's ridiculous to stand here and argue for something that is a possibility in the future or it isn't a possibility. My questions, and I've passed it out to you before and I've mentioned it, is a 24-hour waiting period from the time the woman signs an informed consent statement before an abortion can be formed. And the second question, the requirement of furnishing a woman information on anatomical and psychological characteristics of the fetus at the gestational period or point of development at the time of abortion. You've heard this over and over, I would hope that we could move this along very rapid. In both cases they are constitutional suspect. It would appear the two cases cited in '83 and '86 make LB 854 suspect, but the sequence of holding citing here would indicate a possible swing by the courts. That's exactly what I said, and I think Senator Lindsay would actually concur to that. I think there is a middle ground. I ask Senator Labedz, but now we're off the parental notification, if we could compromise and so on. And I think eventually the minds were changed that we could. In the...one of the court cases that they had mentioned before, the City of Akron and Thornburgh, Akron has failed to demonstrate that any legitimate state interest is furthered by an arbitrary and inflexible waiting period. There is no evidence that the abortion procedure will be performed more safely, nor does it appear that the state's legitimate concern that the woman's decision be informed is reasonably sure by requiring a 24-hour delay, a matter of course. It was brought out to us in the hearings some of these girls come in from a distance, Omaha, Lincoln, the two main places, Omaha. It means that they either go back home again, they wait awhile, or that they sleep in the