

notification provides an emotionally stressed pregnant minor with a chance to find the love and the care of her parents and family unity. I would like to say here now, too, that I believe that it is 16 years of age, am I right, anyone under the age of 16. Last year, a total of 1,086 abortions were performed on 16, 17, and 18-year olds, but only 100, let's see, 153 abortions were performed on minors under the age of 16, out of 6,346 abortions. So we are going to get rid of LB 425 with this amendment, parental notification, when there are only 153 abortions under the age of 16. I don't think that you are taking into consideration the over 16, 17, and 18-year olds which was 1,086 out of 6,346 that would not have to consult their parents if this amendment is adopted. So I want to stress again to the co-sponsors of LB 425 that this amendment does away with parental notification. I think somewhere in the amendment, if I am not mistaken, it says possibility of parental notification and that doesn't go with me, and with many of you, and limiting it to the minors under 16 years of age would not address the age group of minors in which the most abortions are performed. There are seven times as many abortions performed on the 16 to 18-year old group than this 15 and under age group. I oppose the amendment and urge the members of the Legislature, and especially those who co-sponsored LB 425 and LB 769 in 1989 to do the same. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute. Thank you, Senator Labeledz. Next speaker is Senator Hefner. Senator Hefner. Senator Hefner waives off. Senator Nelson is next.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, I, too, hesitate to even get into the discussion remembering what happened last year and previous years, and so on and so forth, and yet, basically, I cannot sit back and at least not try to make the best bill that we possibly can if it may or may not be supported by the Legislature. I would have to ask that many of the co-sponsors of the bill, if they actually knew what was in the bill, very similar to last year. There is nothing wrong with parental notification in families that it works. I think most of them, young children, will discuss this with their parents. Others that can't will do more harm, it will delay that abortion, and I guess the thing that really tears at my heart is we are so concerned about this and we are so concerned about the abortion issue, and yet we blindly and very blindly look at those poor unwanted, battered, abused, a life of welfare, a life of maybe one single parent, children being beaten, alcohol syndrome, and yet we turn our