

backs to all of that. We turn our backs to the fact of expecting a very, very young girl, may or might not even practically realize how she got in that condition, to carry a baby to full term, and if you don't think that is a little bit less than desirable, or for that very, very small body to expect to carry this baby, and what kind of a life does this baby have? That is what really bothers me. The second thing is, is I don't think I have any business telling someone else what is very, very confidential or a thing that means to me and my family. I trust my doctor, and I trust the decisions. The same objections are in this bill, impossible in the Supreme Court bypass or the district court. There is nothing private about that. The bill says that the doctor or his agent must notify one of the parents. Could you imagine a doctor from Lincoln, Nebraska going out to Broken Bow, Nebraska, and asking for an abortion procedure? There is a registered letter notification in another part of it, but, in essence, there is nothing wrong with parental notification. You will hear many things where you can't even take an aspirin or you can't get your ear pierced, that is simply not true, and all of the rhetoric, all of the sometimes bitter debate simply is not necessary. This is an issue that we are not going to settle. This is a private issue, and it's... nationwide it is the same. There were 265 bills introduced in various legislatures last year. Only 15 of those bills passed, so this can tell you that that is an issue that is very private, and we, on this legislative body, are not going to settle it. So I would hope that we spend a minimum of time, that there is not too much animosity build up between the senators on the floor and that we, each one, make our own private decisions and do the best. And I, too, will work for that. I will work for the best bill possible, if we do pass it, and in Minnesota, you will hear that they went down. There were other things that caused the reduction, and from... I have attended sessions on the national level and so on, I have not found yet that all this bitter rhetoric has...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR NELSON: ...helped to support anyone else asking their parents. If the girl is not comfortable in doing that, it just prolongs that pregnancy maybe another four, or five, or six weeks, and I cannot imagine any young girl going to a court bypass. That just is something to make the bill, make it a little bit more impossible to do. And as I said, time and time again, my concern is for those unwanted battered and abused