

improve a gambling bill and make it function better, and your suggestions are viewed on their merits, and if they are good suggestions, they tend to get adopted. That doesn't happen, it doesn't particularly happen in this area of pro-life, pro-choice legislation. I think it is unfortunate. I had a lot of comments off the floor last year, a lot of colleagues very frustrated with the manner in which we approached the legislation last year. There are really two sides. One side was trying to get a bill passed that had to be passed word for word the way it was originally introduced. The other side was doing any and everything it could do to frustrate any type of legislation passing. I was...early in this session, I was approached by, admittedly by a pro-choice group, who indicated they had concepts they wanted discussed on the floor of the Legislature. They wondered if I would be willing, because I'm Chair of the Education Committee, to introduce an amendment that deals with the education process, the role that schools can play in this. And I said, sure, it sounds like a good idea. I'd be interested in seeing if there is an interest in the body to address the provisions that you are thinking need to be addressed. And I took the amendment that they gave me and asked my staff to redraft it. They did, and I filed it. I introduced it. What is the concept I am dealing with? It is the concept of how are young people, that are affected by this bill, going to find out that there has been a bill passed by the Legislature that affects them. It may shock you that there are very few 16-year olds out there that subscribe to the Unicameral Update. very few of them that get the Revised Statutes of the State of Nebraska mailed out to them. How are these people going to find out? Suggestion was that the people in the schools take on the function of notifying them of what this law is all about. I introduced an amendment. I got a lot of phone calls, as I indicated before, saying all Senator Withem is trying to do is turn this procedure into an advertisement for the judicial bypass procedure. Certainly, it was not my intent. I went back and I read the amendment. And I said, by golly, they might be right because there was in the original drafting of this amendment probably a bit of a bias on supplying more information about judicial bypass than about the provision that if a young woman gets pregnant, when she is a minor, that she is going to have to notify her parents. As I said, I read that amendment and redrafted it and took out all the specific references to telling them where the judge is, telling them how to go about applying for the judicial bypass procedure. What this amendment does, and I am going to read it to you for the record because I