

please stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. And also in the south balcony we have some guests of Senator Wehrbein. We have 25 fourth graders from the Central School in Plattsmouth, Nebraska and their teacher. Would you please stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. Thanks for being with us. Senator Labeledz, on the Landis amendment.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to oppose the amendment of Senator Landis. As originally written in 1989, LB 769 was introduced to contain the following language. "The pregnant woman shall mean an unemancipated minor who is pregnant or a pregnant woman for whom a guardian has been appointed pursuant to Sections 30-2620 or 30-2629 because of a finding of incapacity, disability or incompetency." The committee amendments to LB 769 replaced the term "minor" with "woman under nineteen years of age". Now the committee amendments did that. This amendment was offered by the committee to be consistent with the definition of minor in the statutes which states a minor is a person who has attained the age of 19 years. I do want to...and I'm sorry now that I didn't pass this out, but I think Senator Horgan alluded to it when he was up on another amendment that...and I also did on the introduction, that in 1990 there was 6,346 abortions performed in the State of Nebraska and a hundred and...let's see, 112 15-year-olds, 27 14-year-olds and 12 13-year-olds and only 2 12-year-olds, but there was 1,086 that were over the age of 16, 17 and 18, a total of 1,239 abortions performed on...by age of 12 to 18 and that was 19.5 percent of the total abortions of 6,346. But probably even more frightening than that are the young women under the age of 16 that had previous pregnancy and previous abortions. There was none under the age of 12, none under the age of 13, five at the age of 14, and 15 at the age of 11. But when we get to the age 16 to 18 there was 30 at the age of 16, 73 at the age of 17, and 18 had 152. These are repeat abortions. In other words, there was a total of 20.6 percent of the total abortions, 6,346, that were performed on minors between the ages of 16 and 18. So I would oppose the Landis amendment. I think the age should remain those under the age of 19. As I said before, it's defined already in our statutes, an adult is a person who has attained the age of 19 years, that's under Section 43-2202, and then again under Section...subsection (13), a minor is a person who has not attained the age of 19 years. So I urge the members of the Legislature and the co-sponsors of LB 425 to reject the Senator Landis amendment.