

can you tell me, is there any provision made for those small rural schools where we do not have such a person on the faculty or on the staff?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, Senator Schmit, what this does, rather than require counseling, is that they merely state the provisions of the law. I am not trying to be evasive, but I want to be careful in what I am saying because some people, if I accepted what you said about counseling, they would say I am saying that the counselor should advocate abortion, which I am not. All that this amendment says is that the requirement is that you tell the girl that she cannot get an abortion without notifying her parents, and if she does not want to notify her parents, she would go to this judge. There are circumstances under which she would have to do neither, and those conditions are the ones that Senator Smith's amendment dealt with. So the counselor or the nurse would specify what the law says are the things governing her decision to make the abortion. But if you wanted to put in something that would relate to the person in the rural school who would be the one that that young girl would talk to, I wouldn't object to that. I want her to have the information at that time, and I want it given by somebody who has that relationship with the child where we can assume that they are going to be responsible and interested in her welfare, not just, for example, anybody at the school who would just happen to be talking to her and trying to say what their best opinion of the law is, but somebody who carries out that function of dealing with the child as a part of their duty and responsibility.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Then you would have no objection if the amendment carried language that said if any school nurse, school counselor, or instructor is informed, someone in an official capacity, is that right?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, I wouldn't object to that.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Um-hm. All right, I want to thank you because I think that the language implies, at least, that every school system has a school nurse or a school counselor and, of course, so long as we have some of the Class I schools, even some of the smaller Class II schools may not have such a person on staff, and if they did have, might not be the person to whom the young lady might feel that they could speak to. So I would suggest that maybe that there needs to be further language that would be