

part of that extended family, but I don't think probably it would pass. And so, if we could look at at least a grandparent, or a stepparent being included. The purpose of this amendment is to assist the young person in this predicament with communication, perhaps even with the parent. The young mother that perhaps, for whatever reason, feel they cannot go directly to a parent, might be able to go to a grandparent, or to a stepparent. I am a grandparent. One of the things I've tried to instill in my grandchildren, and there are four, is that if you ever need a cooling off period, if you ever need someone to talk to, or as a go-between, not to interfere but to help, that I would encourage them to come to me. I also would like to have you consider the cultural values that we could be using here. And I would say in Scotts Bluff County, looking at perhaps some of the American Indian population and the Hispanic, the extended family is a very, very important part of the family life. And many times you will find school officials and others going to the extended family more than you will the parent. I've heard on this floor today Senator Labeledz, and also Senator Crosby talking about the fact that children cannot always go to their parents, they may sometimes even be afraid to, for whatever reason. If they had some other person that they could turn to, that they could talk to, that could assist them through this process, it could have a much better outcome than them having to go directly to their parents, or to the courts with no one to help them. I also see in the cases of what I would consider really good homes, and I've talked to many parents about this particular thing who have visited with their children about parental notification, would ask the young women if they had found themselves in this case could they come to me, and the children would say no, not because of fear of punishment or anything else, but just because they would not want to disappoint their parents. It's very difficult for children to come and confess anything that would cause disappointment, or disapproval to parents. I also feel that parents do not always have...are not prepared to handle this, no matter how good they are. And to have a third person, third party somehow to assist this young person would be beneficial. I would ask the body to support this amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hillman. I'll now recognize senators in the following order, Senator Labeledz, Senator Crosby, Senator Rasmussen, Senator Lindsay, and Senator Chambers. Senator Labeledz.