

body was almost ready to agree upon this type of an amendment, with the understanding that certain things would not...would not continue. And the body was, at least a majority of the people were somewhat in favor of this type of an amendment, though I understand things change from time to time and year to year. The point I'm trying to make, in conclusion, Madam Chairman, is the following, the family structure is not just parent and child. The family structure is just the basics, fifth grade lesson in sociology, where you start to trace your family tree. And you understand that there is a tremendous...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...resource of people available that we call family. Some families are dysfunctional, and the trees have died, or many of the limbs are dying, or have been cut off and removed. Some family trees are full of life, and some have just basically been cut down. We have to deal with all of that, but in essence one of the things the amendment says...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...is that the child needs to be given an opportunity to talk to an adult in their family that they're comfortable with. And, after all, isn't that what we're really all about in regards to the family structure. This amendment helps solidify LB 425's intent.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Labedz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Madam President. I appreciate the fact that Senator Lindsay brought up the constitutionality of this amendment. I do want to assure you that there is a question of constitutionality of this amendment on LB 425. The grandparents are not on the constitutional plane, as parents are. And the minors making informed decision, with parents being best situated to help, and in Judge (sic) Bellotti, in the early Massachusetts decision, quote, said, "A girl of tender years, under emotional stress, may be ill-equipped to make the decision, without mature advice and emotional support from either one of the parents. The parents," and I think this probably is even more important than anything we've said so far, that the parents provide essential medical and psychological information to the doctor to ensure after care and follow-up