

May 13, 1991

LB 425

which has become the bill, says the abortion is authorized in writing by the person who is entitled to notification. Under this provision that that comes from, a young woman does not have to give notification to her parents. So she can write a statement and sign it and that satisfies the bill. And those who are pushing this are not upset if they make her a liar. As long as they get their theological or philosophical position into the law and they're helping these young women, if they make them liars, that doesn't matter. I thought truth meant something but obviously it doesn't and I'm pleased that they leave the loophole even though a young woman has to lie to take advantage of it, because there are enough lies told on this floor to show that lying is not considered to be such a bad thing. And in that poll that was taken recently that showed that 80 percent of the Americans lie and they admitted it, and what somebody said, it showed that the 20 percent who said they didn't, lie also so it's a 100 percent across the board, save one. Now there's another provision in here which talks about the immunity from liability for the physician. That's on page 6, lines 10 through 19. The physician would have to establish, by written evidence, that he or she relied upon evidence sufficient to convince a careful and prudent person that the representations of the pregnant woman regarding information necessary to comply with such sections are bona fide and true. Now the written evidence consists of what? Who provides the written evidence and what does it have to say? That makes no sense. It says nothing. So all the doctor has to do is write a note, I guess, and say, I certified that I was given evidence that would convince a reasonable and prudent person that the information I was given was true. And, under the bill, that's sufficient. So sometimes in trying to hermetically seal a room to such an extent that a person cannot escape...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...loopholes are inadvertently provided. So the young lady who is desperate enough to have to need an abortion certainly would not be unwilling to forge one of these documents. And, Senator Landis, for that I am grateful because, remember, heaven is not my objective because too many people on this floor have that as their objective. I don't want to be where they are. So I'm glad, even though they made the young lady a liar, they left a means for her to avoid having to be thrown into that situation where she will be abused by one of