

January 30, 1992 LB 671

in the family, then that member of the family can then do a notification of the rest of the family. But it's, again, designed simply to bring them into the loop. I'd urge the adoption of the amendment to the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lindsay. I will recognize senators wishing to address the amendment to the amendment. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President, members. I would ask Senator Lindsay to yield to a question.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Lindsay.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Yes.

SENATOR HALL: Senator Lindsay, in the amendment, as you offer the amendment to it, do you retain "if any" after that? The language before said that it was a member of the family or guardian, if any. Is that retained?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Yes.

SENATOR HALL: Okay, thank you. Madam President, members, I rise in support of the amendment to the amendment as well as the amendment itself. The...and I do that as a proponent of LB 671, which is a shift for me in terms of where I have been in the past on this issue. The amendment is a legitimate one. It is an issue, although the sponsor of the proposal argued that if it's good enough for this it ought to be good enough for any other medical issue. If that were the case, if living will were anything like any other medical issue, then why do you need the bill? If the argument is good on one hand, it's good in the other case as well. They're not the same. And all this really does, I think, is try to bring a little bit of a human aspect, if you will, to a very unfortunate situation. Senator Landis pointed out that, you know, there are those of us who have had personal experiences like that. That is true, and there are cases where in a living will situation maybe the family members will be there. Does that mean the living will aspect is going to be kicked in automatically? No, as a matter of course it could take a number of days, maybe even weeks before that determinations is made. Someone could be in a coma for months, possibly even years before there is the medical determination that there is nothing else that can be done. Family members are