

right, do not have the right to accompany their client to a mediation unless, unless both parties agree. The other point and the other intent is, obviously, that the mediation process is supposed to be a free and open discussion of the issues and that any notes or records, compilations primarily that would be notes taken by the counselor or mediator or by the parties, those notes in and of themselves are not...cannot be used in a subsequent proceeding and that only makes sense. You want to encourage the free flow of information gathering and discussion, whether or not attorneys are there. You know, hopefully, in my view, the best possible situation would be that attorneys would not be there, but we don't, in this bill, do not want to take that right away from the parties if they both agree. And, in most cases, I hope that the mediator will communicate to the parties and to the attorneys, it would be best if the attorneys not be there. But the purpose of the...of Section 8 is to encourage the free flow of information between the parties and that that information that is gathered in that process is not, in and of itself, admissible. However, it may be discoverable independently of this...of this section, meaning that if there is something that is discoverable anyway that information would be discoverable in the normal court proceeding and that also is clearly set forth in the law. It just seems to me that the protections here are adequate and certainly...and another point, I guess getting back to the abuse point because I didn't get an opportunity to respond to that again, but the Section 28-711 sets forth quite clearly the obligations of not only counselors but any person, whether they are a professional or not, to disclose evidence of abuse if they know it to exist, and I...certainly there's no, nor should there be, anything in this statute that would abrogate that responsibility. So I think we are...we are attempting to solve the concerns of confidentiality as well as compliance with regular, normal discovery rules in a courtroom situation in Section 8 and I...I guess I don't.... Maybe Senator Chambers will explain again what it is that he wants to accomplish here, but I don't particularly see it.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Ashford. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker...

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Chambers, yeah.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ..and members of the Legislature, after my four years at Creighton Undergraduate School, I graduated from