

environment. LB 78 provides in the two operative portions of the bill, are located on page...the end of page 3, beginning of page 4. It would require that the informed consent include among those terms or in addition to those terms that we already have required a statement of the anatomical and physiological characteristics of the unborn child at the gestational point of development at which time the abortion is to be performed. The second portion of the bill would require that 24 hours elapse between the time that the woman receives the statement of informed consent and the time that the procedure is to take place. That is what the bill does. I suspect that there will be amendments offered which will lead the discussion into a wide variety of different issues. I suspect that there will be amendments offered which will have very little to do with the substance of this bill. I suspect the discussion will very rarely center on what this bill actually does. But if at least one point during the day we can discuss that, it will be hopefully right at this time. Oftentimes this Legislature is asked to look at consumer protection type of legislation. In this area we're not going to get a chance to look at it. I think we know how the debate will go this afternoon into this evening, but we really won't get a chance probably to vote on it. But that's what this is. This is consumer protection legislation. If we look at what abortion is, it is a product which is sold and there certainly is a market for that product. It is the largest unregulated industry in the State of Nebraska. Anybody that looks at the issue knows that there are few, if any, regulations besides some reporting requirements which apply to this industry. If we look at the statistics that have come about from those reporting requirements, we see that in 1991 there were 6,194 abortions performed, 6,138 of those abortions were performed by three doctors in this state. If you take a look at the figures, you'll figure out that that's a large industry. Multiply that by 200, 300 dollars and you're talking about a nice chunk of money, but those physicians operate under no restrictions whatsoever. Rather they operate under protection from a wide variety of individuals. The purpose of the clinic is to sell its product and in doing so it's not always in the best pecuniary interests of that clinic to provide the person who is going to be the subject to the procedure with all the information that is available to the clinic, but not necessarily available to the woman. That is what this bill would allow. It would allow the woman...and we're naive I think if we think that every person, every woman who goes in to obtain an abortion knows exactly what these characteristics are and