

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

February 2, 2004 LB 172

only one issue is blinding most of my colleagues, and that is their antiabortion position. But there is something even ahead of that--the fear of being attacked if they do not slavishly, blindly, unthinkingly go along with Senator Foley's attempt to deny young women this information. The next item, all caps, JUDGE GRANTS OR DENIES THE WAIVER. The judge will authorize the abortion without notifying a parent or guardian if the judge determines that the pregnant woman is mature and capable of giving informed consent to the abortion or that the abortion would be in her best interest. If the judge does not grant the waiver, then the doctor must notify the pregnant woman's parent or guardian of the pending abortion. And we go back to the top where the doctor has to give written notice to the parent or guardian of the pending abortion. In all caps, the next item, APPEAL TO THE NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT. If the judge does not authorize the abortion without notifying the parent or guardian, the pregnant woman may appeal to the Nebraska Supreme Court to authorize the abortion without notification to her parent or guardian. The final item, PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY. All records, forms, and court proceedings regarding the waiver or an appeal are private, confidential,...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and will not be made public without the pregnant woman's permission. Then across the bottom of this sheet we find this statement: For additional information regarding the law dealing with parental notification of an abortion, refer to Nebraska Revised Statutes 71-6901 to 71-6909. This information is objective. It is neutral. It is accurate. And in referring the young woman to additional information, the referral is not made to an individual or to an agency but rather to the Nebraska statutes and it gives the location of those statutes. This piece of paper need not be given time after time during the school year...

SPEAKER BROMM: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Schimek.