

June 1, 1993

LB 110

SENATOR HILLMAN: ...fertility counseling.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hillman. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. I just...I'm standing to...in opposition to this amendment of Senator Bohlke's. Several areas here that I wanted to talk about, one of them is on page 4 where it describes the information that's given by the physician who performs the abortion, by the referring physician, by an agent of either physician, by the Department of Health or by personnel of a licensed health care facility. I wonder why we want to get away from having the physician who's doing the procedure not be involved with the information. It appears to me like this is essential. I wouldn't consider going through any kind of a medical procedure without talking to the surgeon before that happened and then yet with this we've diluted that down to even personnel at a licensed health care facility to provide that information. One of the other things that I was concerned about has to do with the informed information that the department is supposed to put out according to the Bohlke amendment. It says that the materials required in a subdivision, this is on page 7, at the...toward the top of the page, to be published only after it consults with the Nebraska Section of the American College of OB and GYN and the Nebraska Obstetricians and Gynecologic Society relative to the scientific and medical accuracy of printed materials. This is in collaboration actually with a group who have a resolution on file in opposition to LB 110: Resolve that the Nebraska OB-GYN Society opposes LB 110, which because it constitutes a state intrusion of private patient-physician relationship and so on. There are four different resolutions there. OB-GYN Society has opposed everything in LB 110 or practically, so it would seem strange that we would ask for information to go flow from them to the patient. One of the things that I heard earlier today some place along the line was talk of child abuse and the reason that we should...we should spend any more time with children who are abused and this; we shouldn't be asking people to carry out a pregnancy where the child would stand a chance of being abused. Those sorts of statements seem somewhat facetious to me because I can't imagine any abuse worse than the actual abortion of that child. That would be the ultimate in abuse. No other kind of abuse could supersede that and I keep thinking of that every time we talk about care of children. I think you know too that