

child birth and adoption, and that there are agencies and services available to assist her to carry pregnancy to term. They have to be told, under existing law, of the abortion procedures to be used. They have to be told, under existing law, of the particular risks associated with the abortion procedures to be employed in her case and that there are agencies and services available for the prevention of future unintended pregnancies, all under existing law. Understand that this area has been one of a lot of effort and a lot of attempt to draw...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...standards across the country. There was a President's Commission for the Study of Ethical Problems in Medicine and Biomedical and Behavioral Research. In 1982, the commission enunciated four principles of informed consent and these are generally met throughout the country and certainly in Nebraska. First, the patients are entitled to accept or reject a health care intervention on the basis of their own personal values and in furtherance of their own personal goals. Secondly, the truly informed consent is a process of shared decision-making based upon mutual respect and participation, not a ritual to be equated with reciting the contents of a form. Unfortunately, I think 110 moves us to that recital of a form function much more than our existing law. Third, physicians must discuss all alternative treatments, including those he or she does not provide or favor so long as they're supported by all...by respectable medical opinion. So it can't be just the ones that you personally believe in. You got to give the range of medically, generally accepted medical options. Lastly, patients should be provided with complete and unbiased information and manipulation can occur in extreme forms. One of the things we have to make sure, and what I think Senator Bohlke has attempted to do, is to make sure there is no manipulation of this information which is provided to women. Of particular concern in health care contexts is the withholding or distorting of information in order to affect the patients' beliefs...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...and decisions. Current law is sufficient in this state. If we have to make a change, the Bohlke amendment is the better option to go.