

January 16, 1980

LB 483

year ago at this time, approximately, give or take a few weeks, and the outcry against that legislation, Senator Newell, was overwhelming, more so than I have seen on almost any form of legislation that has ever been introduced before this body.

SENATOR NEWELL: I will concede to that point.

SENATOR VENDITTE: Pardon me?

SENATOR NEWELL: I will concede to that point. I mean that is exactly why we have done the committee amendments and why we have worked hard to try to build a consensus that we have today, Senator Venditte, because there was great opposition to that bill last year and that is what we did over the summer and that is what these committee amendments do and that is what the amendments that...the process is but let me ask Senator Nichol a question. Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Yes, sir.

SENATOR NEWELL: Senator Nichol, I am hesitant to recommit this bill to committee for a number of reasons, partly because I have worked so hard on it and I would like to just get it up and out of the way which is a natural thing for any legislator to want to do. How do you feel, Senator Nichol, about holding public hearings? Let me ask this question. If we were to leave the bill sit on Select File, do you feel there is a need to hold another public hearing on this and would you and your committee be willing to do that?

SENATOR NICHOL: In answer to your second question first, yes, we would be willing to hold a committee hearing. If this body wants us to do it, we will be glad to do it. We have enough hearings without doing it but we would do it. Now as far as advancing the bill and working on it on Select File, I would be willing to help with that. I am sure any member of the committee would that is interested or any member of this body. Certainly your amendments help the bill tremendously, and while it is a very emotional bill with all parties involved, some being gung ho for it, some violently opposed to it, but most of them trying to be reasonable people and there does seem to be several across the state who would like to have such a bill. The only thing that bothers me personally yet is perhaps some of the protection for the mother, especially those who have had a contract whereby the information would not