

the abortion procedure itself.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: So this is when the person walks into that clinic and the arrangements have been made and we're at that point going to say, we're now arguing then about whether this person is or is not in fact qualified to offer counseling?

SENATOR LABEDZ: That is correct.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: All right. Now I'd like to ask a question of Senator Marsh. Senator Marsh, your position then is more or less a disclosure statement here of, if this amendment is adopted, that the person receiving that would receive a statement saying where the counselors failed to meet the qualifications of a qualified counselor. Is that correct?

SENATOR MARSH: Yes, I would be very willing to take the last sentence out if that would make it more adoptable for the legislative floor. It simply was a place of saying that not all persons who call themselves counselors are qualified counselors.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you. It seems to me that the issue here is first and foremost, a concern that the patient, the prospective patient does, in fact, go through a rational decision-making process and does, in fact, have a full awareness of the kinds of options that are available to her and a full awareness of the consequences of any of her choices, whatever her choices might happen to be and I'm very concerned that as a professional counselor this just isn't counseling. I have a feeling that this person, this woman coming into that clinic is probably under a great deal of stress anyway. I don't imagine that anybody embarks upon this course of action without feeling a great deal of mixed emotion and I feel as a professional counselor that this process should, in fact, occur much earlier and that it should be, in fact, done by a professional counselor who is adequately trained to help this person sort through all of these mixed emotions, to give her complete information, so that she can then make a good decision. And so I don't think either one of these amendments, quite frankly, comes anywhere near to offering the kind of assistance that a woman in crisis needs and as a professional counselor I guess I would have to oppose both of these amendments and