

affected know what it is we have done. Thank you.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator. Senator Rasmussen.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Yes, Mister...I can't figure out what I am supposed to call you. Everybody is calling you something different. Jerry, I, too, rise in support of the Withem amendment. It seems so remarkably reasonable, I will be absolutely baffled why it does not pass. It is intriguing to me that those who argue on behalf of LB 425 as a system that encourages communication with the family would be opposed to communicating with children and with the young people for whom this law is written. I don't see how those two fit together unless there is something to be hidden, unless the real interest is in controlling young people or in controlling women, unless the real interest is in punishing rather than supportive. This amendment simply says let's tell young people what the consequences are of their behavior and, perhaps, this kind of communication will help young people to think ahead of their actions. To wait until someone is pregnant and then start talking about what their options are in terms of judicial bypass or any other kinds of option strikes me as somewhat late, and to take the opportunity through this amendment to provide the information to young people and also to open the door for the opportunity to talk about what the consequences of their behavior might be seems to make good sense. And I would hope that all of you on both sides of this issue would recognize that this is a worthwhile amendment to LB 425.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, the guy sitting up there in the Chair and members of the body, we had troubles knowing what to call you, so...folding chair was what was also referred to. A couple of quick comments in response to a couple of points that were brought up here regarding this amendment. Number one, Senator Landis, I appreciate his remarks but one thing, had you only listened to Senator Landis's remarks, you might conclude that this amendment deals only with notifying young people of the judicial bypass procedures. That is not it at all. It also informs them of the provisions that if they are pregnant, to get an abortion, they will have to have their parents or guardian notified. So that is an important distinction I think between what maybe previous attempts to amend the bill regarding supplying information to people and this measure would involve.