

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3403

September 12, 2006

[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting me about the Child Custody Protection Act. It was good to hear from you.

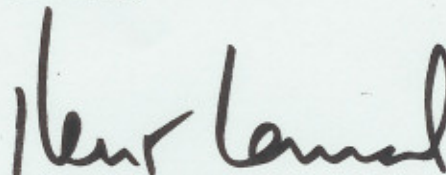
I share your support for this bill, which would prohibit the transportation of minors across state lines without parental consent in order to obtain an abortion. Supporters of the bill argue this bill is needed because minor girls are being taken to another state for an abortion to avoid the parental involvement laws of her home state.

On July 25, the Senate considered and passed the Child Custody Protection Act by a vote of 65-34. I supported the bill because it is vitally important that parents be involved in the decision to have an abortion. As you know, the next step is for negotiations between the House of Representatives and the Senate to work out the differences between the House and Senate versions of the bill.

As you mentioned, Senator Durbin objected to a request to bypass debate on the motions to request negotiations with the House and to appoint Senate negotiators. Under Senate rules, these motions are fully debatable. Senator Frist, as Majority leader, is in charge of scheduling Senate floor debate. He has not yet scheduled a time to debate these motions so that we can proceed to negotiation with the House. Having supported the Child Custody Protection Act, I am disappointed to hear about this objection and hopeful that it will be lifted so that the bill can move forward. Please know that I will keep your thoughts on this issue in mind as debate on it continues.

Again, thank you for contacting me. For more information on issues of importance to North Dakota, please visit my website at www.conrad.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



KENT CONRAD
United States Senate

KC:wdmh