

Whether or not you can get around the requirement of parental consent for an unmarried pregnant minor should be given far more discussion than can occur on the amendment offered by Senator DeCamp this morning. So I think there is more than adequate cause to recommit LB 38 for the purpose of hearing the abortion portion to the committee, and if it is recommitted, I would hope that during that committee's handling any Senator who has amendments that he would like to offer regardless of what they are would at least present them to the committee, they can be considered at that time and discussed. Then when something comes on the floor, it will not be provisions that are unconstitutional but which have not been addressed. There will be an organized, or at least a systematic effort, to present arguments relative to the changes that should occur. Therefore, I am asking that this bill be recommitted for a full hearing and for the kind of work that ought to be done in committee and can not be very well done on the floor.

PRESIDENT: Senator Simon. Senator Barnett. Do you wish to be recognized, Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: Yes, I do. I have to stand up and oppose the motion and Senator Chambers, I am sure, understands that. I think he knows what would happen as we take it back to the committee and regardless it would be a struggle to try to amend it and try to have a hearing on it. Regardless of what we would decide in the committee, we would come out here on the floor and go through the same thing. This is an issue that as long as it is out here in front of the floor, the people are going to try to amend it and the majority of the people would probably try to adopt it and I sincerely think that Senator Chambers is probably trying to do this, as he has told you before, he is not going to vote for the bill and, therefore, I think it is just a clever way of trying to take it back to committee to hold it back and keep it from advancing or to keep it from being killed or whatever. I probably have mixed emotions on the abortion issue as to what should be in the law but I know I am not for trying to put a lot of things in it that are constitutionally suspect. But I think, if we take it back to committee, we go through the same process. We go through a public hearing. Whatever the committee decides as a whole, they would bring it to the floor and we would have to go through the same debate again that we are going through right now. And besides that, I would hate to think of all the time we have wasted from the first page of this and have to go back and start all over. So, therefore, I would have to oppose the motion, the same as I would oppose it if you would take and send it back for the death penalty, which you have a great interest in and may be as argumentative as this. That is the reason I would have to oppose it. It is out here now. I would just as soon leave it here, struggle with it and pass it on early.

PRESIDENT: Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would support Senator Chambers' effort to bring the bill back to committee and I do this with great reservation because I do know that there are members of the Legislature who have spent years researching this bill. They know what is in it but I do not feel, in my own mind, that I can