

have to say that I do not believe that any amount of time we spend on this issue is wasted. This Legislature, for the past 23 years that I've been here, has spent hundreds of thousands of hours, it seems to me, on issues of absolutely no consequence. We've argued about the state bug. We've argued about weeds. We've argued about fertilizers. We've argued about water. We've talked about a lot of different issues and I always find it sort of disarming to know that some of my best friends and strongest supporters, when I introduced bills that dealt with collection of child support or introduced bills that provided for a decent level of support for the ADC mother, and I want to add we're a long way from having a decent level of support for the ADC mother, when Senator Wesely and many other persons on this floor have introduced bills on behalf of children and Senator Pirsch has fought for the rights of the victims of crimes, we always like to think, well, you know, after all this individual is touting at a windmill, but the facts are that if you feel strongly about an issue then you'd not only have a right but you'd have an obligation to stand on this floor and debate the issue. There are those here who sincerely believe that my position and the position of Senator Labeledz and Senator Lindsay is wrong and that is their right to believe that. It is our right to believe as we do and to argue from that point of view. From my point of view, I do not know exactly when life begins. I thought Senator Wesely made some excellent arguments. But the facts are that until I do know I do not want to place in jeopardy one, single, living person. Therefore, for that reason, I have always opposed abortion and I oppose it vigorously and sincerely with full respect for those who disagree with me. But if it takes...if anyone thinks that eight hours is too much time to spend on this issue then I disagree with that. We will spend far more time, and I have done that and I would do it again. I think it's worth eight times eight the hours I spent on the tax issue, and I would do that again. I think it's important that the people understand that there are persons in this body who feel deeply on both sides of the issue, who are not afraid to stand up here and be counted whether they are for or against, but for us to say we should just pass on, pass over, that Senator Lindsay is wrong to bring this forward is incorrect. This is a major issue and it is not going to go away and we are going to face the consequences in years to come. I do not expect to be on this floor when the time comes that the people will debate whether or not the aged and the handicapped should be put away. I hope that that does not come during my lifetime, but I am concerned that it might. I'm already at the