

SENATOR MARSH: Yes, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. How many of you are courageous this morning? How many of you will say, I will allow someone else the choice. I will allow the person who does not believe in abortion to refrain from ever having one. It will never be a forced procedure. That person has the choice they choose to make but will you take the choice away from everyone else who has a different religious point of view who comes from a different religious background that means equally much to that individual? Yes, I believe human life is very precious. I think each child born has a right to be wanted to be a child with two parents to help raise that child to maturity. Most of you have heard me say that as the mother of six children I think abortion is a very poor form of birth control but I do believe in birth control. I do not support this bill and I do not support the emergency clause.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President, senators, I would first like to point out that Senator Fowler in his remarks stated that we should not get involved in local affairs and I would like to remind this body even though I wasn't here when it was voted upon, I was not yet elected, Senator Fowler voted for district elections in Omaha which put this body entering into local affairs. Senator Chambers and Senator Marsh both said they were going to speak to the emergency measure only and instead they spoke to the entire bill so I am going to say just a few words in rebuttal. I think all of you know because of the election of President Ronald Reagan, the mood of this country is not to be spendthrift any more. Under the present laws the state pays the insurance premiums for public employees and they will be paying for people who do not want an abortion and who are not in child-bearing years. It will be axiomatic that everybody will have it. I call this a tremendous waste of money and as pointed out in committee hearings, this is an elective normally medical procedure and we are speaking only to that type where it is an elective procedure, the same as cosmetic surgery, having a face lift or a nose job done. I don't think that the state should be paying for elective procedures. We are not saying that any woman who wants an abortion cannot have it. We are merely saying taxpayers should not have to pay for it. Thank you, senators.

SPEAKER MARVEL: We are still speaking as Senator Higgins indicated to the emergency clause. Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President, I call for the question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The question before the House is, shall