

emergency room is equipped to do. There are no abortions being performed after the first trimester in a doctor's office. So you see, the abortion procedure is safer than childbirth during the first trimester. We again are simply putting problems, complications in the way because a group of senators do not like abortions. We want to make it difficult. We want to discourage people, not me, but some senators in this body are trying to say we can stop some abortions if we make it more difficult. It is very contradictory to say I am providing safeguards when there are no safeguards for the woman involved. It is simply a harassment exercise for a doctor who is courageous enough to perform medically safe abortions for persons who need an abortion, not what Senator Labeledz wants, not what Senator Higgins wants, not what a number of this body want but a legal procedure nevertheless. It is so unrealistic to think this body continues to pass legislation which gives a perfect opportunity for more legal opportunities to go to the Supreme Court. We end up, the Nebraska people end up paying when this body passes legislation which is unconstitutional. Then the State of Nebraska has to pick up court costs for the attorneys which take this case to court and I will guarantee you, if you pass LB 466, it will end up in court again. It is perfect fodder to be taken to court, a measure which is harassment, which you know and I know is harassment, which is not providing the safeguards that the introducer says are there. It is simply another mechanism, a facade, and I don't like to have that be what is fostered off on the Nebraska citizens as being good legislation. I think the medical profession is the person, the group of individuals who should be making medical decisions, not lay persons. We do not have a medical specialist in this body. Why? Probably our salary is part of the reason among other things but to deliberately go ahead and pass LB 466 when we know it has unconstitutional provisions is not playing fair with the citizens of this state. We, you and I, help pay the costs when we pass pieces of legislation which are unconstitutional but so do the other citizens in this state. Abortion during the first trimester is a legal medical procedure. The majority of the citizens of this state agree that that should be permissible under circumstances during the first trimester. The Supreme Court of the land has said it is a legal medical procedure and yet this body keeps trying to put more legislation on its books which is unconstitutional, which will cost the State of Nebraska a great amount of money to simply take the case to court and when we lose again as we have since I have been in this body, we then pick up the cost for the attorneys which bring the case to court. Don't you have the courage to vote what you know is the right thing to do? Please kill LB 466 and let's go on with legislation that needs to be passed in this legislative session. We have