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LB 125

consciousness of most Americans, as abortion really has, because it has been raised time and time again in our collective consciousness, it seems to me improper for this Legislature to make a decision which precludes any local autonomous kind of decision making. That's what LB 125 does. So those are two of the points that I felt were good points that were made during the General File and the Select File debate, good enough points that in my opinion warrant our returning this bill to Select File for the specific amendment which is to strike the enacting clause.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Labedz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I don't have too much to say because I know that most of you are just probably a little tired of hearing about the abortion issue, but I do want to say one thing. I respect Senator Johnson's opinion on...and I know he is a compassionate man as far as the poor, the unwed mothers and so forth, but not once in his testimony just now did he make any reference to the rights of the unborn child, and that is all I have to say about it. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, Senator Labedz, like you say people may be tired of hearing discussion of this issue but it is one that is not going to go away and everytime it comes before us, we have no choice other than to meet it head on and discuss it. I am in favor of Senator Johnson's motion. Senator Johnson, we can be like twin Don Quixotes this morning because we are jousting at a windmill. But nevertheless when the windmill is there, somebody must joust with it. There has to be a thread of common sense and compassion flowing through a Legislature even when it seems that the vast majority of the members are of one mind, or rather than being of one mind, being mindless in supporting a particular point of view. The trouble with these kind of bills, Senator Labedz, and other members of the Legislature, is that it unfairly places the burden on one group. It does not properly distribute the burden. Women are not the only ones involved in the sexual encounter that produces an unwanted pregnancy. But women are the ones that this Legislature and legislatures all over the country are going to compel to bear the burden of it. I have sat on the Judiciary Committee. I have listened to people talk about the way husbands or boy friends abuse women. And the fact