

state going to hire women who are pregnant knowing that in six months, five months, seven months, they will have to take a leave and perhaps choose to quit? I think not. The odds of that woman getting a job in that situation so that she can have the income to support herself are very, very slim. So what is the choice we dictate to that woman? No opportunity for economic support for herself, or for the child that has been conceived. The choice in the bluntest terms is starve that unborn child, or have an abortion. Not an easy situation, not an easy choice. What of a woman who is with an alcoholic and abusive husband, and we certainly know that they exist, we put \$600,000 back in the budget because we know that alcoholism is a major problem in our state, and we cared yesterday about the alcoholics. Let's talk today about the alcoholic's family. What is a woman who finds herself pregnant in that situation to do? She has to change her life in some way. She doesn't have the luxury that Senator Pirsch talks about about continuing life in the same way. Is she going to be able to leave and find another job if she is pregnant? Or is she to stay in that environment, be abused, run the risk of not just harm to herself, but harm again to this child that may yet be born?

PRESIDENT: One minute, Senator.

SENATOR FOWLER: Again, we are dictating with Senator Pirsch's amendment a situation that encourages abortion as an alternative. Now the pro-life movement is concerned on this issue because this is the only place in our state law that the human life amendment that this Legislature so proudly endorses is written into state law and it is written in for a specific situation and I support it in this situation because I do not believe that our state law should encourage women in these types of difficult situations to have abortions. When I got this language adopted in 1975, it was with the support, and I welcomed the support of sincere pro-life legislators, those who honestly believe that life begins at conception as a fundamental religious value, not those who say they are pro-life for political expediency, not those that are pro-life except when we suddenly talk about welfare mothers and begin to think, well, maybe their children are not so important, those who are sincerely, like Senator Labeledz and Senator Dworak, sincerely pro-life. I am interested today to see how many sincere pro-life people they have in this Legislature and how many people have no problem with encouraging abortions through Senator Pirsch's amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Cullan.