

even though I'm sure most of us realize how many votes Senator Chambers will get on the motion. It won't be enough to reconsider it. So I'd like to talk a little bit about the whole issue of abortion. I tell you, I've been very surprised this session as to the divisiveness that this body has had over this issue. I assumed when I started this session that we'd have some bills dealing with it. I thought we might pass some, we might not, but I certainly didn't think it would tie up the body quite this much, and the reason for that is that I don't think that the U.S. Supreme Court has really made a definitive statement as to the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision. I think that decision, if they will come out with a decisive case, statement on abortion, I think it will be coming out some time this summer. At this time I don't even know if they will. I think that the court is evenly divided 4-4 with Justice O'Connor having to make a decision on the court. I don't think that the Webster decision of last summer had as great an impact as the media made it out to be or as members in this body have talked about. I don't believe that it really had any impact on our state statutes and I think that a lot of the debate and a lot of the divisiveness that I've seen this session has been wasted. I think we'll have a real knock-down, drag-out discussion of abortion next year if the court strikes down Roe v. Wade and we do have abortions, but personally, looking at that decision, at the Webster decision as well as a number of other decisions that the U.S. Supreme Court has made, I don't really think it's going to happen. And I'm somewhat saddened that as to the time that we've wasted on this floor over an issue that will probably be struck down later on and I'm saddened on both sides, really, because I think that there was a lot of good legislation that will not be passed this year as a result of our debates on this issue. I assume that this particular motions on LB 688 will continue through noon or continue for the rest of the day. Senator Pirsch's drug-free zone bill that has been debated, I should say filibustered, will probably not be voted on this year and it all comes back to this particular issue, coming back to a U.S. Supreme Court decision that has yet to be made. I realize that this is something that if the court makes a decision this summer on, should have adequate time, and if we only debate one particular bill next year and it deals with abortion after the Roe v. Wade decision has been struck down then, so be it. I can understand that. But I think that we've wasted a lot of time this session over needless debate on an issue that has yet to be decided. Thank you.