

bad things will happen if we don't get to this bill and other bills. And I think we're to the point where we all understand we can work together on some of these things, but we've got to start sooner and I'd hope at some point the body, both sides of necks, or that maybe those that the necks haven't been bowed, the majority of the legislators in here will allow us to help the people that Senator Byars is trying to help, help some of the people that other bills are there trying to help...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time has expired.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...and move on so that we don't waste the opportunities that still are before us. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Chambers, please, followed by Senator Nelson.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, there is an aspect of this issue that I want to touch on now and it goes to the decision that a woman actually makes to have an abortion. I don't think it's something that she casually decides on. I don't believe she wakes up one morning, she has missed her period, she goes to the doctor and the doctor tells her that she is pregnant so then she says, oh, well, I got to go to the store because I need some lunch meat, some bread, some mustard, some cereal, some milk, and then if I get through in time I'll go get an abortion, but if I can't do it this evening after I go to the grocery store, then I'll get up first thing in the morning and go get my abortion before I go to the beauty shop. I don't think that they make those decisions that casually. I think it is something that troubles a woman and I think she may consider what are the possible repercussions, physically, first of all, and then psychologically. With all of the things that a woman could not help being exposed to in this society with reference to how a woman is viewed who is even contemplating an abortion, there is no way that we could rationally say her decision is made on a frivolous basis. So after a woman has gone through whatever emotional agony is involved in reaching that decision, the state should not step in, through the agency of a male-dominated Legislature, and set into law a statement that indicates every case is exactly the same and every woman must be treated without distinction. We dehumanize people when we do that. Although I'm against every capital punishment law that has ever been passed, I'm against the attitude of the existing Supreme Court at the federal level