March 30, 1990 LB 688, 769

Clerk before a vote is taken. All motions may be submitted in writing, if requested by the presiding officer and the senator. Once motions are stated, they may be withdrawn or modified by the mover before a decision, amendment, or ordering of a vote has been made.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you very much. We are on the subject of returning the bill to Select File, a reconsideration motion to return the bill. Let's keep to that for the moment. Senator Landis, followed by Senators Elmer, Schimek and Chambers.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. Let me remind you that my purpose here is to speak at every available opportunity that the rules provide me, without me making any procedural motions. And I am an opponent of LB 769. I hope that's not lost on the body, nor any of my colleagues. Let me talk about some of the complications that can occur in an abortion, because...or in pregnancy and childbirth rather. One of the things that you have to remember is that the subtle message of 769 is to force young girls to carry fetuses to term, that's really the goal. And the point that I've got to make here is that what you're doing is you're loading the gun, you're forcing them into a more dangerous situation. You're taking off the table, when you do that, the option of abortion, which is, in fact, safer to their health. Now, I know that you do that because you think there is a greater good, and that's the greater good of the life of the fetus. But notice what risks you are putting the individual woman through, the requirements that they will have to live by. And, by the way, in the most sophisticated of obstetrics journals, the Williams Obstetrics Journal, which is the premiere reference in this source, not just the normal routine of 13 or 16 times safer. The Williams Obstetrics claims that childbirth is 22 times more dangerous than having an abortion, because the of pregnancy and childbirth include toxemia, which risks includes stroke, convulsions, kidney failure and death. Another risk for childbirth is placental abruption. These complications lead to severe pain, kidney failure, shock, blood clots, hemorrhaging. There is another potential risk that this bill will force young women into, and that is placental previa, rather. These are again blood clots, hemorrhaging, shock and potentially death. It's possible to have pregnancy-induced diabetes, damage to blood vessels, potentially life-threatening hypertension. There is a condition called hyperemesis gravidarum, which is unlike morning sickness in that it results in severe and unremitting nausea, leads to substantial weight