

April 3, 1990

received thanking him for voting for certain bills, and he said you will never get a thank you letter from the unborn. So that is what this vote is about, this is an abortion vote that we are taking. Senator Landis knows it. Senator Bernard-Stevens knows it. Senator Ashford knows it. All of us know it. What did you say, Senator Hall? Senator Hall and I are still trying to bring some apparlment onto the floor that he kind...oh, he has got his light on. That is what this vote is all about and that is why the strong opposition from me. Others are talking about the system. Those concerns are valid but they are not the concerns that I raise because I don't think what is being attempted here is outside of what the rules allow. If it were outside the rules, it would be ruled out of order. Nobody has even challenged it because we know it is within the rules. Some may not like it. It may rub the wrong way as far as their concept of responsible legislating goes, but all that can be is a basis for an argument. It is not a basis for saying that the effort is out of order. Those of us who are opposed to it, for whatever reason, have to speak and try to persuade some of the members not to make that mistake. Senator Labeledz very skillfully procured the two additional votes she needed to have 30. I have to do what I can to try to get one or two or more of those votes to drop off. If this is not a vote around the abortion issue, I would like somebody to convincingly argue that point. This is not the first session when priority bills remained on General File, whoever has been the Speaker. And I think the present Chair was Speaker at one time. The Speaker has annually told us that the last day to get bills off of General File is today, whatever that day happens to be. There would not be a motion made to pass all those bills over to Select because us senators have priority bills. All the bills have merit. All of them are important. All of them ought to be heard, therefore, we routinely offer a motion to advance all the priority bills. Humbug, that does not happen. It has not happened. There has never been an attempt to move these types of bills to Select File on one vote. Even when Senator Labeledz says that there have been two times when votes on one vote several bills have moved, never has there been a situation where these types of bills were moved on one vote, never. And if she had those examples, she would show them but they are not there. So people cannot hide behind that and take solace from it, and go back home and say we have done it before. Never has this been done. Never has an abortion bill been advanced without amendment or debate, and that is what a vote to do this will be doing, and nobody can say that is not true. There is a