

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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right to debate the bill. I do believe it's up to this body to see if this debate, see if this legislation is warranted, and I do believe that government governs best when the people are fully engaged and that we must define our morality and ethics by something more than simply what the law allows. I encourage Senator Matzke and Senator Bromm to discuss the constitutional issues. I encourage my members who have feelings about this to bring them forward to the floor today. I made a decision some time ago, speaking with fervent proponents of this bill as well as opponents of this bill, that I, for one, would not engage in a guerilla war, if you will, against the university. I believe I have kept true to that. I have not attacked the budget, as some prior to session had suggested, and the budget remains intact for the university system. I believe the appropriate place to discuss the controversy surrounding the University of Nebraska Medical Center's use of aborted fetal tissue is in a bill, a bill that specifically addresses on point that issue. This is the appropriate place to discuss this issue, now is the appropriate time. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, I do have amendments to the bill. I have a priority motion, however. Senator Chambers would move to bracket LB 1405 until April 12 of the year 2000.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your bracket motion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, when I make promises, I believe in keeping them. I said I was going to take charge of this debate, such as it is, and that's what I'm beginning to do now. I notice from the Journal that some of my mentees have numerous amendments filed to this bill, so you're trying to steal my thunder, but I accept that. When we're in a legislative setting, everybody is entitled to take their shots. Now, this whole thing, in my mind, is not legitimate. The way it got here is questionable. And Senator Hilgert said he believes this matter can withstand an open debate and there ought to be one. So I'm going to bring some things to the public as I understand them, and anybody who feels that what I say is inaccurate has the opportunity to