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LB 1405

correct it on the record. When the session began we know that the hubbub existed about the research being done by the university using certain brain cells from elective abortions, fetal tissue derived from elective abortions. I support the research, I support a woman's right to have an abortion. I have opposed various so-called abortion bills in the past, and I was the only one to vote against the so-called late term abortion ban. And, as it turns out, the courts sustained the position that I took, and it's pending before the Nebraska...the U.S. Supreme Court now, because Attorney General Don Stenberg filed, for political reasons, an appeal. Why do I say it was for political reasons? Because, if you read an article in the World-Herald, dated March 27th, you'll see this paragraph. "Attorney General Don Stenberg issued an opinion last month that a ban on the research use of aborted fetal tissue would be constitutional, if properly drafted." Stenberg did not address LB 1405, because he was not asked to. Well, the Speaker, on a bill that dealt with some matters relative to the death penalty, matters that I supported, was discussing this matter with the Attorney General in an informal way, and he said he was going to write a formal opinion because he thought the issues were serious. Well, here there was a bill pending, and he chose not to address it, even though the question posed dealt with the subject matter of that bill. So again he was playing politics. And those who say the Attorney General's Office is not politicized, this demonstrates it; he chose not to write an opinion on LB 1405, because he knows, even with his stunted legal ability, that LB 1405 is blatantly unconstitutional. Now, to bring it on home, Senator Hilgert dropped this bill into the hopper. At that time I don't think anybody knew whether or not any of us would have opposition in the upcoming election. In order not to have to prioritize this bill, Senator Hilgert prioritized an inconsequential graffiti bill. He didn't want to have to prioritize it, because he knew it was a bad bill. But he offered it for what I consider suspect reasons. He made subsequent comments in the newspaper that he did not lead any senators to think that this bill would not be debated on the floor. That is the crux of what was reported in a World-Herald article. Here's where we are, I had said that he did that. Why did I say it? Because various senators came to me, and I'm not going to point fingers at those of you this morning, because I'm focusing on the major players in this travesty. The article