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SENATOR BRASHEAR: ...and to say that we favor every precaution being taken to provide life-support procedure to ensure the unborn child its continued life. Now we didn't only visit that in 1973, we visited that statute and that intent language in 1973, in 1977, in 1979, in 1984, in 1986, in 1993, and in 1997. I assume that we were not asleep all those times when we addressed that intent language. I assume that it established what we thought of in term...how we valued unborn life. And it's against that backdrop that I found what happened in this case to be bothersome, troubling and, I feel,...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: ...appropriate for this body to inquire about. We adopt...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Did you...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Yes, Senator. Thank you. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Dwite Pedersen.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: I give my time to Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, it's against the backdrop of that intent language that, when I found out in 19...in November of 1999 that fetal tissue research was being done at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, I said it was appropriate for us to assert our role in the making of public policy and to determine the facts. Several of you have seen and have in your files copies of my written efforts to approach this problem. It was different, admittedly, than a ban; it was, we need to find out the facts, the body needs to investigate this matter; we have a right and a duty to do so. That was my approach. It was my approach at the beginning of the session, and I'd even talked about that in recent days. Why do I think that's necessary? Well, to the best of my ability, as I understand the public record at this moment, fetal tissue research was begun on a decision of some administrators at the medical center, not fully in conformity with the medical