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LB 1405

perhaps some details to share with you my perspective on what I consider to be a very complicated and complex issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I rise in opposition to LB 1405 and in support of the bracket motion. Those of you that have been here awhile know that I have supported issues before enabling reasonable restrictions and safeguards to be placed...be put in place for abortions. However, this issue that we are talking about today is not one of being for or against abortions in my opinion. I received a phone call the other day from one of our ex-colleagues, and I think most of you here remember him. It was Senator Robinson from Blair. And you know, Senator Robinson was always a supporter of right-to-life issues and you remember how he used to scream into the microphone when he was addressing us and he wanted our attention. Well, he did the same thing on the telephone to me, and he wanted to get my attention also. I said, Bud, you have my attention, you have it. I understand what you're talking about. He explained to me how he had several close relatives that were affected by Parkinson's disease and he said, let me tell you something, if that research can help that terrible disease that I'll witness destroying the lives of some close friends and relatives of mine, do not support this bill. You know the tissue that is...that is provided is taken after the abortion is complete. The fetus is not living, the...and that tissue essentially is the same as a cadaver at that point, is a cadaver. Cadavers and tissues are used frequently in medical research. Senator Chambers gave us a little history of the use of cadavers and I believe that it is important that we continue that practice. In my opinion, there's no...there is really no evidence of any connection between the research and the numbers of abortions that are performed and ceasing this...this use will not...will not curtail any abortions. We've discussed that issue before. As Senator Landis says, if we want to discuss abortion, then let's discuss abortion. This is research that is being done by the university. Thank goodness we have this research. Where would we be? Another story I would like to tell you about is someone who is very near and dear to me, a young lady that was an