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LB 602

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And you ultimately believe, you and those you speak for, that a human being...

SPEAKER BROMM: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...would ultimately result from this.

SENATOR SMITH: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Chambers and Senator Smith. Senator Foley.

SENATOR FOLEY: Yes, Mr. Speaker and members, I rise in support of the bill and I thank Senator Smith for bringing it to us, and Senator Stuthman for prioritizing it. The bill, as I understand it, basically parallels legislation that the United States Congress has been working on the last two or three years. It's my understanding that the House of Representatives, by a very wide margin, passed a bill more or less identical to the bill that Senator Smith has brought to us, but that no vote has yet occurred in the United States Senate. Hopefully, that will happen fairly soon. I think Senator Johnson raised a very interesting, a very important question in his first turn speaking. He said, why do we want this bill; why do we need it? And that's probably the first question we should always ask with every single bill that comes before us--why do we want it or need it? And I think the answer or the best answer perhaps, Senator Johnson, is we need it because it's very appropriate for this body to establish an ethical boundary where science can go in this state and where it cannot go. That's the question that every Legislature throughout the country ultimately is going to have to answer. It's a question that the United States Congress has been dealing with, is where are we going to establish the ethical boundary on where science can go and where it can't go? Senator Kruse made the comment that he would oppose anything that would restrict medical research. I doubt he means that. I doubt very much he means that. I think he may have misspoken and he may want to clarify that on a future turn, because surely he would want to have some ethical boundaries on where science