

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 5, 2003

LB 602

legislation that's actually history. This may not even be something that's on the horizon anymore for a use such as we're considering. There's...I'm not that familiar with work with human beings, but I am quite familiar with work with livestock in cloning and using these different cells and fertilization and that sort of thing, and what was being done ten years ago with people for the last five years we've been doing in the livestock industry on a commercial basis. So I feel at the present time that there's a lot of research going on and we, as political people sitting in the Chamber here, probably have no idea where this research is. I kind of agree with Senator Johnson, that this is probably something that really doesn't have to be done now. I think I would like to see this bill held over and by next year there would be some more research, whether or not we even want to do something like this. To me, the bill should just say we put a ban on human cloning and probably cut it off right there. When we get into the bill and try and "micromanage" on what it is and where we're going to do it and what the research is going to be out, I don't know if this is areas that we need to go into. My understanding is that some of this is already covered under the federal level, so I don't know if there's a need for what we're doing now. So at the present time, I think I agree with Senator Johnson that is this really something that needs to be done now. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Louden. Senator Stuthman.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body. First of all, I would like to thank Senator Smith for introducing this bill, and I would like to kind of clean the air a little bit as far as why I did pick this bill to be my priority bill. I was not pressured by any group or influenced by anyone to do this. I felt it was something that I had a lot of interest in and this is the reason why I chose it as my priority bill. Several of the bills that I had introduced on my own, a couple of them didn't make it out of committee, and some of them did but got tacked onto another bill and did go for Final Reading. One of the things that I would like to probably discuss a little bit is the difference between, you know, the artificial insemination and the cloning, and I would like to have a little bit of a debate with Senator Beutler on this.