

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

May 5, 2003

LB 602

confused with God's creation. Galileo is the one that's more to the point. Galileo was restricted in the search of knowledge. I am not interested in restricting that. It's just none of our business. I speak of the ethics that we talk about. And we do have a right to talk about that. I don't think we have the right to talk about morals. And I've heard that term, you know, what's the moral issue. Ethics is quite different from our morality. We speak of therapeutic cloning. And someone pointed out, properly, that a cell doesn't need therapy, and therefore the term is improper. It's a shorthand misuse of terms, as is the term "to create life." And there's where I quit dancing around the issue and have fun with these various thoughts, and get down to serious business. We are not creating life. I've heard that 50 times this afternoon. It would be an immoral act for me to vote for this bill without the therapeutic cloning, so-called, removed. I'm not laying that on anybody else. I have to follow my moral perspective. And I have to do that. So I don't have any options, from my perspective. I understand that God created the world and created life. You and I aren't going to create life. We can take some cells and move them around. We can examine life. And I would hope that researchers would do an examination of life. But we don't create it. We don't produce something unusual. And I would acknowledge a wise word from Senator Smith here, when he points out that designing human characteristics is offensive and is putting ourself in the place of creator, saying that we can design a human being that's better than what the creator would do.

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR KRUSE: We are misusing words. We are guessing at what we are doing here. We are not informed on what the scientists are doing. We do not know where this might head. I believe that we should look at life. If it's so precious, it's worth examining. If, as I believe, God created, I do not have the right to pretend that I'm creating when I'm moving cells around. And I don't have the right to pretend that somebody else is misusing life as they examine it. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Kruse. Senator Foley.