

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

January 22, 2004 LB 602

LB 602 pass? Yes, but there are enormous opportunities should it pass as well. Let us not confuse that. Now to the question that Senator Hartnett asked Senator Smith as far as has anybody successfully cloned humans or will they in the future. We have a facility within the United States of America that has cloned a human. They have not been successful to the point to where it has produced beyond a cell division after fertilization,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR ERDMAN: ...but Advanced Cell Technology has cloned a human, got the cell division, human being died. That's happening today. That is happening today in America. Finally, I'll share this with you. That same organization, doing their research, and I believe this was a study done with animals as a way to try and predict what would happen in humans, to treat 17 million diabetes patients in the United States, estimate, this is how they thought they would arrive at that, they were collecting 10 eggs from 7 donors, so they collected 71 eggs. Cloning efficiency is 20 percent, so that means 20 percent of those eggs that they were using actually made it to the blastocyst stage that Senator Johnson spoke of. From that stage, only 10 percent of all the cells that they harvested have a chance of initiating a cell culture. If you do the math and you assume that we did come up with a cure or some type of treatment, just to prolong that treatment it would require a minimum of 850 million eggs.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Where do you get those? From women within the United States or others. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Erdman. Senator Redfield, followed by Senator Chambers, on the motion to recommit LB 602 to committee.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I have a grown daughter who lives in Virginia. Two weeks ago, I received a call from her saying that she was considering donating eggs. They were advertising in northern Virginia for