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talking about the embryo.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Yes. Thank you. But if in the event that therapeutic cloning would be allowed and it would be started for a research project, and say the research project didn't need cell material at that time and maybe wouldn't need it for a year, what would happen to that embryo?

SENATOR SMITH: Well, you said if the embryo wouldn't be needed for a year? Okay, it could be stored frozen, like a lot of embryos are currently being stored that are left over from an infertility treatment process perhaps.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Okay, they could be stored. But if they were...if they were continued on for...to create the cells and the cell process had started, and there was no need for the cells, what would happen at that time?

SENATOR SMITH: Well, certainly I would speculate that there would be the desire to let that embryo grow. Hey, you know, this is research; let's see what it will do; how far can we let this go; in fact, let's even implant it, just to try it, and maybe not go to the live birth but let's just try it. And so there's that whole continuum, and for us to say, no, let's just stop at therapeutic, at that line that is a bit fuzzy, and not go any further is a bit unrealistic. In fact, we could arrive at a policy if we only sought to ban reproductive cloning. We could arrive at a policy that would force someone to have an abortion against his...against her will.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Senator Smith. This is kind of the answer that I was looking for, because I think, realistically, in my own opinion, looking into the future, keeping a very open mind, I think we could really be opening up ourselves to a can of worms, or a group of cells. When and what point are we going to say, no, these cells have to be...have to be stopped? Will research say, you know, we only want to take them at a certain point? Are we going to let them grow to...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.