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January 22, 2004 LB 602

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Members, the question before us is the motion to recommit LB 602 to committee. All in favor of that motion vote aye, and opposed nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 11 ayes, 30 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to recommit.

SPEAKER BROMM: The motion is not successful. Next item, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, a priority motion: Senator Chambers would move to reconsider the vote just taken to recommit to the Judiciary Committee.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Chambers, to open on your motion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, there has been a lot of discussion this morning and I have played a very small role in it, but there are some issues that I think need to be considered. And rather than ask Senator Smith questions at this point, later on in the discussion, as we proceed with the bill, I will ask some additional questions for clarification. But I notice some shifts in terminology in the committee amendment. On page 1, in line 10, we have the term "human embryos." When we get down to line 22, we're talking about a "living organism." When we get down to lines 23 and 24, we're talking about a "human organism." This language shifts based on the term being used. When I go to page 2, I never did get an answer from Senator Smith as to what a diploid cell is. I like to be informed by those who have the knowledge. I was asking about a complete set of chromosomes. I had made it clear I was not going to challenge or question anything Senator Smith said while I was asking him those questions, but in this language there are questions that suggest themselves to my mind. Is Senator Brashear in the Chamber? Senator Brashear, the Committee of the Judiciary or on the Judiciary drafted this committee amendment. Is that true?

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Brashear, would you yield?