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

January 12, 2006 LB 57

SENATOR LANDIS: Right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...in this series of questions. Do you feel comfortable putting into law a statute which, since we're talking about any stage of development,...

SENATOR LANDIS: Right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...it runs from conception to birth, premature or otherwise, but it can cover a nine-month period, where a substantial part of that early development would not allow of a prosecution because a prosecutor...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...would know that he couldn't or she could prove the essential elements of the case.

SENATOR LANDIS: You give me a chance to give my feelings about the bill and that is that I think there's a bill that I could not only reluctantly but comfortably vote for that would describe acts that cause injury that...for which there should be very serious consequences, and they involve an assault on a pregnant woman that eventually harms or injures the child that she's carrying. I would have no difficulty trying to get to that problem and describe those acts. I'm uncomfortable with the language of the bill because I think it serves political ends and rhetorical ends, as well as trying to get to that act, and that makes it difficult. If I have to, ultimately, I may acknowledge the social harm of an injury to a pregnant woman whose baby is injured in that assault. I may do that.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR LANDIS: I would like the bill to be worded very differently.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Landis.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Mr. Clerk, items for the record, please.