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

January 18, 2006 LB 57

legal protections that the pregnant woman enjoys, nothing here that diminishes her interests. And if the thought is that we need to in some way strengthen our assault statutes for the born, fine, let's consider that question. I'm not opposed to that. But to suggest that this bill somehow sublimates the woman's interests, that doesn't compute. It doesn't do that. It simply expands the nature of our assault statutes to include the unborn. It takes nothing away from the pregnant woman, nothing whatsoever. And in fact, because of the location of the unborn child, it enhances her status, because not only does she now enjoy those protections, as she's always enjoyed, but her unborn child, located within her body, also enjoys that protection, if this bill passes. So her status as a pregnant woman is enhanced, not diminished in any way. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Foley. Further discussion, motion to reconsider? Senator Chambers, there are no lights on at this moment. You may close on your motion to reconsider, if you care to.

Thank you. Mr. President, members of the SENATOR CHAMBERS: Legislature, Senator Landis is correct in saying that we will take a cloture vote on this. I hope he is incorrect in suggesting that it will be successful. But if it is, success can be reckoned only in terms of postponing the battle to another day in the session. And it makes me no difference. If the body chooses to give the time to something such as this, I will take it on this bill, rather than all those resolutions, and on other bills which, prior to this, I had no particular interest in one way or the other. But now they will become means to an end, and I will make use of all of those bills. Senator Foley knows that he does not have to accept any amendment to this bill, no matter how atrocious the bill may be, no matter how unenforceable, no matter how unreasonable, no matter that it attempts to elevate the fetus above the woman who is pregnant. I don't care how they clothe that idea, or the language they use in any legislative proposal. I know what their intention is, I know their ultimate purpose, and my intent and my purpose will be to do all I can to defeat theirs. In chess, you have an opening or beginning game, a middle game, and