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January 18, 2006 LB 57

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your amendment, FA202, to LB 57. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, for the purpose of the record, I'm going to read this amendment, which just by chance starts with the two words "For purposes." This is the amendment. "For purposes of this act, body means the stage of development where an individual member of the species Homo sapiens in utero possesses arms, legs, hands, feet, a head and organs including heart, lungs, kidneys, liver, spleen and stomach." For Senator Foley's sake, this amendment does not attempt to name every organ in the human body. It says in the amendment "including," which is for the purpose of giving an idea of what would constitute an organ for the purpose of interpreting and construing that word should a case come before a court involving a situation covered by the bill. I'd like to ask Senator Foley a question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Foley, would you yield to a question?

SENATOR FOLEY: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Foley, I think you conceded the other day that in your opinion a prosecutor would not file an action under a bill such as yours if in fact the fetus, the embryo, were at a stage of development where there was no body in existence. Now, you may not have gone that far, so I'm letting you know the area that I thought you made a concession, and now I would like you to clarify so that I'm not putting words in your mouth.

SENATOR FOLEY: Well, thank you, Senator Chambers, for not trying to do that. And I mean that sincerely. You know, medical science is marching forward at a very rapid clip, and we're learning more and more...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But on my time, I would like you to let me know what comment you made when you were saying under what circumstances you thought a prosecutor may not attempt to file a charge under this bill.