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FLOOR DEBATE

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it may be? The answer here is treatment and understanding, and walking alongside this person in crisis until that child comes, and then staying with that mother and child in those early years to make sure they get the best start they can get. I would encourage the body, if we're going to talk about this, to look at a level of civil commitment, and I'm not talking about a regional center. I'm talking about a place where the mother would feel comfortable, would be away from the environment where that methamphetamine is found, a place where we could care for that mother and her soon-to-be new child that is born, without an arrest, without handcuffs, without courts, without jails, but a way to take care of the expectant mother. That's the direction I would be interested in. I'd be happy to talk about it with anybody else. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Flood. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, Senator Flood is approaching the realm of sanity, and where I part from him is when he talks about a civil commitment, and he said the pregnant woman may not want that right now but we, meaning society, has decided that the government has a proprietary hold on this woman, owns her, and can lock her up someplace because society doesn't like what she's doing. Well, can society lock her away to prevent her from having an abortion? Again, under the law, whether you like it or not, a woman can get an abortion during the early stages of pregnancy for any reason or no reason. So what are you going to do? People in a Catholic community say, we don't want her to have an abortion so we're going to lock her up for her own good to make her deliver this child. In South Dakota, and I'm sure it's a Catholic state, probably a heavily Catholic legislature, says that in their law, which will be struck down, a woman cannot get an abortion even if she's pregnant as a result of incest and rape. Well, they probably have a lot of that up there. It's a rural area. They intermingle. They have sex with their daughters, have sex with their nieces, have sex with their sisters, and they want that baby, the man does. That's why if it's rape or incest, the woman cannot get an abortion, because the rapists and the incestuous ones sit in the legislature and make the laws. I read little bitty things that the World-Herald puts in, because they like to put controversial