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

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were to bring a charge, how is the charge to be filed? Let's say he is as rabidly antichoice as Senator Foley and his ilk and an assault occurs against a woman the night that she conceives. You know that no charge of assault on a fetus can be brought at And if the pregnancy goes to term and a child is that point. born into the world and there is some problem with the child, how are you going to trace it back to the assault that occurred the night of the conception? Well, these religious fanatics who are politically motivated would bring the charge anyway, not expecting to obtain a conviction, but to make a statement of his or her particular religious persuasion, that, by God, we think from the time of conception there is a full-fledged human being and every opportunity I get, by using my office, I'm going to make that clear, so I'm going to file the charges against So let's say that the woman identifies somebody who somebody. had assaulted her. Notice the prosecutor is not concerned about the woman having been assaulted; he's concerned about a zygote. What I have argued over and over is that my point of reference is the woman. There is one person in existence and that is the woman. If a pregnant woman is attacked, the attack against the woman should be charged, as in the case when any person is attacked. But the nature of the offense should be enhanced if she is pregnant. And that's how you protect the woman, by making anybody know that if you attack this pregnant woman, there's going to be a price to pay. But under Senator Foley's approach, you can beat the stew out of this woman, but you know where the focus is? On the embryo or the fetus, because they want that embryo or that fetus to be considered a separate person. And I think that is cynical and that kind of attitude can be preached in churches throughout the land and I would have nothing to say other than how simpleminded it is. But I wouldn't try to stop them through the coercive power of the state. But when they want to bring that mess into the law and use the coercive power of the state to enforce, by criminal sanction, their particular religious view, then I'm going to fight it, if I'm the only one. And that is one of the reasons these white people ...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ... are going to be so happy when I'm no