

April 2, 1984

LB 112

abortion referral, transportation to abortion, or doctors fees for the performance of abortions for women eligible for participation in the program?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: No, ma'am. The purpose of this bill is to provide for healthy live births and not aborted fetuses and it should not be construed in that fashion. The whole thrust of this bill is to provide for responsible pregnancies, I shouldn't say responsible, but healthy pregnancies and healthy babies and good births and good nutrition for children and the like. It is not to be construed as providing eugenic abortions or any kind and it is not even an abortion related bill.

SENATOR LABEDZ: One more, in Section 2 of the bill, lines 6 and 10, it mandates that the Department of Health refer women participating in the high risk pregnancy program to family planning and genetic counseling.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Right.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Does this mean that as a condition upon her participation in the high risk program a woman must participate in family planning or genetic counseling?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: No, no, ma'am. The reference is made simply because those are services there and are available and no person must participate in any of those programs to receive any benefits from this bill.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you very much. I would certainly have serious difficulty with a mandate that a woman must participate in family planning or genetic counseling in order to receive these services and I appreciate your answers, Senator Johnson.

SENATOR CLARK: The question before the House is the advancement of 112. All those in favor say aye. Opposed. Machine vote. We will have a machine vote on it. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted on the advancement of 112? Record the vote.

11514