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time, I'm going to give Senator Pedersen just a few minutes. In fact, Senator Pedersen, what I'm going to do is give you a five-minute opening, not a ten-minute opening since you've already opened on the bill. But since it's been several months since we've debated the bill, I'm going to give you five minutes before we move to Senator Chambers' amendments for an opening, update, whatever you want to use. Senator Pedersen.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. Let me take this opportunity to give you a brief update on where we are on LB 462. As you remember, we've had several hours of debate last year on this piece of legislation, beginning with my motion to pull it from the...from the Judiciary Committee, and culminating in two days of legislative debate. Then we bracketed the bill and are back to it today. Last year I stated to you that my belief that allowing for the use of human fetal tissue for research at our public university creates a tie between the state and the abortion industry due to the need to develop relationships to ensure a supply of fetal tissue for research purposes. I introduced LB 462 for those who have been or will be sacrificed for the kind of...that kind of...this kind of research and for the people who are very much against their tax dollars being used for the purpose of conducting research using fetal tissue from elective abortions. To me, it goes much further. It goes to the sanctity of life itself. You might also remember that last year I mentioned that the university, I think, has in good faith, worked very hard to find alternatives, and my understanding is they are still working to find alternatives. However, I'm concerned about their real commitment, as I handed out a couple papers that you have on your desk, because of what they have talked about since last year when we talked about embryo research. They want to use embryos in the place of fetuses. What do they think embryos are if not babies? There are some of us who would not see that, but there's some of us who do. I think they're poised to go down this road, which concerns me about their commitment to finding alternatives. Last year, it was intimated that those of us who do not support tax-funded fetal tissue research are somehow anti-research and not interested in finding cures for such diseases as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's disease, and diabetes. Nothing could be further from the truth. I and, I know, many of