

May 4, 1973

(Start Belt #13)

wantedness could certainly refer to the nationality of that child which is being carried in the womb. Why are these not important things to include if we are voting to include age, sickness, stage of development, or condition of dependency or wantedness. I don't know whether anyone's listening but with this, I withdraw my motion.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marsh is asking unanimous consent to withdraw her motion. Are there any objections? Hearing none, so ordered, the amendment is withdrawn. There is another motion on the desk.

CLERK: We have the Richard Lewis amendment.

PRESIDENT: There was another motion that would not yield to the amendment.

CLERK: Motion read.

PRESIDENT: Alright, that's the motion before the body then. Senator Chambers, we have your motion now to indefinitely postpone LR 23.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and Members of the body. I can understand why those who are in favor of this resolution want to hasten it through and get it out of the way, but see that's the concept that you're opposed to in the concept of abortion, hastening and prematurely terminating something which you feel ought not be done at that particular time. Every time a heated issue comes before this Legislature, there are statements given about the pressure that the public is bringing to bear on which direction the Legislature should go. Well, the way to yield--deal with that pressure is not to yield unthinkingly to it, but to review and weigh the issues that led to that pressure in the first place and then make the proper decision. I think that some of the votes that will be cast in favor of this amend--this resolution, will not be based on a consideration of the issue of abortion at all. I see too many callous disregards for human life manifested by votes in this Legislature to make me feel that there is a genuine concern for the unborn. I've seen the actions of the Legislature with reference to spending programs that would assist in human uplift in this State during this session. The action of the Legislature at that time told me there is not a high regard for human life. Those are not really the issues on which the vote for this resolution will turn. As Senator Carpenter pointed out on another issue earlier this morning, there is an election next year. There are some men who want to be electible and to do that, they can't take those positions that might be out of sympathy with people who are going to cast votes and they would rather be voted back into office more than anything else. This resolution is poorly drafted. It, it establishes premises which I do not think are valid. They have not been documented, no evidence has been offered to uphold them. I don't know if everybody has read this resolution so once again it's a situation where, because of the heat of the issue, the issue is not going to be properly handled. This should not be hastened through and I'll tell you another major reason. There is confusion on the issue of abortion, not only in this State but throughout the country. Some people do not understand what the Supreme Court decision's significance is. They don't understand the significance of the State not passing any law at all. If no law is passed or if an unconstitutional law