

May 10, 1973

SENATOR MARESH: That's right, I think Senator Goodrich has some input on this. He was the one that brought it up a few days ago here on the floor. I think he's going to answer that.

SENATOR CLARK: You had this amendment on our desks the other day and I asked four medical students from Sidney if it had been asked them and they said never. In the second place, the second half of this it says nor shall such applicant be denied admission because he refuses. Well, if his refusal to perform, participate in or assist in such an act. I didn't think anyone could ever be denied admission to that University because he had never done it in the first place.

SENATOR MARESH: Well, that is already provided in section 14 that no person shall be required to perform or participate in, that's in the original bill. No person shall be required to perform or participate directly or indirectly in any abortion. That alone is covered right there without this amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Well, if we're going to set up qualifications for doctors and surgeons, I don't think this should ever be in. I'm certainly in agreement with Senator Barnett. If a man decided he did not want to even go into the procedure of such a thing and certainly he couldn't learn the procedure unless he went into it, how could he be qualified? Say he's a pediatrician. He's called upon to perform this surgical procedure sometime.

SENATOR MARESH: What is the problem if they don't ask this question.? I thought you said they do not ask this question.

SENATOR CLARK: Pardon?

SENATOR MARESH: I say you just said that they do not ask this question so the problem doesn't seem to be there, right?

SENATOR CLARK: Well, what are they going to do if they don't want to do it after they get in there?

SENATOR MARESH: Well, the bill says that nobody shall be forced to perform an abortion anyway, that's in the bill. If you wanted to change that you'd have to amend the bill because that is already in section 14.

SENATOR CLARK: Well, I don't think the man would even be qualified to do it.

SENATOR MARESH: Pardon?

SENATOR CLARK: I don't think he'd even be qualified to perform an abortion if he's not going to take part in one, in the procedure when he's learning in school. It doesn't say he's going to perform an abortion, it says he doesn't have to take part in it.

SENATOR MARESH: Well, if he doesn't have to perform them after he graduates, why should he have to learn how?

SENATOR CLARK: How do you know he's never going to perform it? How about a vasectomy?

SENATOR MARESH: Pardon?

SENATOR CLARK: How about a vasectomy? A lot of people don't believe in it but certainly you have to know the procedures. I don't know, I can't understand restrictions. Maybe that's my problem.

PRESIDENT: IS there any further discussion? Senator Goodrich, do you have any input here?