

April 14, 1980

LB 1004

illicit sexual conduct. Now that is where these babies and fetuses come from that are the subject matter of abortion. But that is not discussed on the floor of the Legislature. High morality when you deal with the symptom but not when you get at the cause, and I am not going to do this year what I often do in talking about what the Pages say of the things they have to hear from these God-fearing Christians who are opposed to abortion in all forms. I won't do it this year. But there are some juicy stories that could be told, I'll tell you that, by God. But while I have the floor, is Senator Dworak in the Chamber? I would like to ask him a question, because I am attempting to amend his amendment. Senator Dworak, one of the exceptions under your amendment is that coverage will apply in an abortion, any abortion we can interpret that to mean, where complications arise. Isn't that one of the exceptions that your amendment as existing now allows for?

SENATOR DWORAK: Only when the mother's life is in danger, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But, Senator Dworak, that is not what the language says. It says "or", "either/or", not both, "or" to coverage for medical complications arising from an abortion. "An" is an indefinite article which means any...

SENATOR DWORAK: Senator....

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...so it could be an illegal abortion, couldn't it?

SENATOR DWORAK: Well, Senator Chambers, the wording there came from the code of federal regulations in the pregnancy discrimination act and we used that wording to try to keep it in compliance with what were mandated by the Supreme Court, and so that is where the wording came from.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, Senator Dworak, I am not opposed to it because here is what I see, a woman who is not covered under this amendment can begin the process of an abortion, then go to the doctor and be covered by insurance. Isn't that correct? She can start an abortion and then run the risk of hemorrhaging or infection which would be complications and go to a doctor and then have that covered. Isn't that correct?

SENATOR DWORAK: Hypothetically, Senator, I imagine that is correct.

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