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LB 425

SENATOR LABEDZ: You have to remember that if there is child abuse, sexual or physical, it has to be reported to the authorities.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Yes, okay.

SENATOR LABEDZ: She doesn't have to go home. The Child Protective Services should take over and take care of that young lady and not send her back to that same situation.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: But, Senator, you know how the system works. It doesn't work that way. If a call goes in and says, this child is abused, the doctor calls and said I have a report that this child is abused, a CPS worker goes to her home, says, Dad, I've got a message that you abuse your child. What happens?

SENATOR LABEDZ: Well, I ask you, Senator Rasmussen, what would happen if we send that young lady back to that same situation?

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Who is going to...

SENATOR LABEDZ: Would you want her to go back to physical and sexual abuse?

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: No, Senator, I don't want her to go back, but where is she going to go? Our system does not take children out of the home...

SENATOR LABEDZ: Then we should change the system, Senator Rasmussen.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: ...on the basis...let's change the system before we force the kids back into that. It's a broken system. Our system does not protect our children. You know that. You went through that whole Franklin case, you know what happened. The first thing that happens when somebody comes to investigate, they begin to question the credibility of the child. They don't rip those children out of the home. They leave them. They make one investigation, they leave that child, walk out the door and what do the parents do who abuse their children if they've been accused of abusing their children? What would any parent do? They get angry and what do abusive parents do when they get angry?