

Lawsuit Over Abortion Law May Force Special Session

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Gov. Mike Leavitt met with legislators Wednesday to discuss the possibility of calling a special session to settle a lawsuit over the state's 1991 abortion law.

The lingering suit involves a physician's latitude in using fetal material. While that's a sensitive issue, Leavitt and lawmakers face the political problem of addressing the controversial abortion issue in an election year. If the governor were to put abortion on a special legislative session agenda, lawmakers would be free to pass any law dealing with abortion. So, instead of just taking care of the 1991 issue, legislators could try to pass an even tougher abortion law.