

LB 138  
February 14, 1973

spend on schools is well spent. That's the statement that I have.

SPEAKER: The chair next recognizes Senator Whitney, then Senator Stahmer.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Mr. President, I have been informed by somebody who has studied this bill very carefully that if a member of the family works and obtains an income, that the total amount of the income would be deducted from these welfare payments, whereas Senator Schmit's bill and whereas with the present welfare program, these members of the family are permitted to keep a portion of this which is an incentive for them to work and so, it would seem to me that we want, in this legislative body, to pass a bill which will create an incentive to work in our welfare program, and, therefore, it seems to me that correcting the present law or adopting, say, amendments and Senator Schmit's bill would be far superior to this one for this reason.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Stahmer. We still have before us the motion to indefinitely postpone.

SENATOR STAHMER: Mr. President, members, first of all I'd like to congratulate Senator Chambers for having the courage to introduce this bill. It's similar to the one I had two years ago, but I think Senator Kelly did raise a good point and we do have these other major measures to consider and I, for instance, when I was requested to have a bill bracketed concerning school funds in Omaha agreed to let it wait until the state aid to education was settled one way or another and I think Senator Kelly did raise a good point there. In addition, I'd like to point out I also have a bill 403 that would, once and for all, have the state step in and take care of all handicap children, the mentally retarded children, EMR, TMR, all of those categories. I think, also, this is extremely important and, perhaps, many of these measures could be considered more or less together because they all are going to touch on considerable sums of money.

SPEAKER: The chair next recognizes Senator Cavanaugh, then Chambers, Carpenter, Marsh, Goodrich. We still have before us the motion to indefinitely postpone.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President, members of the body, yesterday Senator Carpenter asked in reference to the other bill, pertaining to Senator Schmit's bill, why we had passed this bill out and he had the understanding that we, also, were going to pass out Senator Schmit's bill. I'd like to address myself to that answer. I was a member of the committee and I think it was primarily at my insistence that we did pass this bill out of that committee. The reason was that I felt and I attempted to persuade my fellowmembers of the committee that this was substantial question of state policy as to whether we were going to find dependent at the rate of what we determine in the state of Nebraska to be their need at 100% or 80%, and I think, briefly, that was the attitude of the committee when they sent the bill out. That this legislature should consider that as to whether we want to establish that as...which we want to establish as the policy of this state, whether we are going to give children 100% of what we say they need or whether we are going to give them something less than that and that is something that the whole...this whole body should speak to. Now, I...my intent, also, was at that time in committee that we would consider these bills at substantially the same time. So, I would hope that Senator Goodrich would continue his magnanimous position and allow us to do that and that the rest of the body would go along with that.

SPEAKER: We still have before the body the motion to indefinitely postpone. The chair next recognizes Senator Chambers.