

CLERK: Mr. President, the motion is as follows: Mr. Chambers moves that LB 179 be passed notwithstanding the objections of the Governor. This motion is found on page 971 of the Legislative Journal. It was entered into the Journal as of yesterday. We are within time to override vetos'.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Members of the Legislature, this is the bill that would increase the amount of assistance to dependent children. I will not take a long time with an argument or a discussion because I feel that those of you who voted for the bill originally, and I put it in this handout that I passed around this morning, I think you were considering it from the ethical standpoint of what is needed for these children. The issue of the aid to these children was tied in with the earlier discussions we had on abortion, the consistency that ought to be shown, as so well pointed out by Senator Schmit, in helping to take care of these children after they come into the world. There were enough votes to override the veto when we passed it originally. They state around the Legislature, as a rule of thumb, that when the Governor vetos' he frightens off four to six people. If this were a less serious issue perhaps that rule would obtain, but I have had far more controversial bills than this one which received fewer than 30 votes on final passage, but received enough votes to override the veto. So I'm banking, this morning, on the fact that those of you who voted for this bill were conscious of the need that these women and children have, and recognizing that need, realizing that there had not been an upgrading in this standard for over two years, realizing that what the Governor offers is still two years behind what would be needed now, that you'll stand firm, hold to the conviction that you showed that day and vote, at this time, to pass LB 179 notwithstanding the objections of the Governor. One other point. This bill will require an increase in appropriations, however, the total amount of the increase in appropriation required by this bill is less than 7/10 of one percent. Even if you looked at it from an economic point of view, this bill requires an expenditure of less than 7/10 of one percent of the total amount available for spending. I mention that because in the Governors' letter he rehashed what he has said to the Legislature in his statement, but he also gave some dollar figures without dealing with the percentages involved. I think that if every program in the Legislature, that comes before us for funding, could get by with an increase in its budget of less than 7/10th of one percent, then we would be in very good stead. But, because it is an issue that relates to the welfare of children, I hope you will vote to override the Governors' veto this morning.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I rise in support of Senator Chambers motion to override the Governor's veto. I recognize the concerns the Governor has in his veto message, he has expressed it well and he has expressed it in terms of dollars. But I believe this Legislature was aware, when we passed the bill, of the cost of the bill. I believe the Legislature took into consideration the other costs that would occur and would accrue if we do not adequately fund the care for the dependent children.