

March 31, 1980

LB 954

SENATOR CLARK: Next amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment is by Senator DeCamp himself. The amendment is to...

SENATOR CLARK: Senator DeCamp.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator DeCamp moves to amend his request: Read DeCamp amendment found on page 1610, Legislative Journal.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, as promised, this is the amendment striking the weatherization fund. I only strike it because everything I sought to accomplish with that fund I believe has been in fact accomplished within the last hour or so and I have had handed to me from the Governor's Office actually signed by William H. Palmer information and commitment or whatever you want to call it that would assure that the problems sought to be addressed with the weatherization fund can and will be accomplished in a manner that may be even more efficient and I would just quickly read the letter and then urge the adoption of the amendment. You may remember that the weatherization fund was maybe the central point of controversy in this legislation. "Dear Senator DeCamp: At the present time there is 'no limit' on the amount that the Community Action Programs and the Inter-Tribal Council in Nebraska can spend on labor for weatherizing an eligible house. Of course this office is cautioning the subgrantees to be prudent in their expenditures but the federal program or the federal government is setting no limit on labor. The Community Action Programs can either hire laborers directly or may contract to have weatherization labor done. At the present time the subgrantees are under a federal ceiling of spending no more than \$560 for material." Let me interrupt to say that was the major problem. There was no money for labor. "Soon to be adopted are new federal regulations that we anticipate will put a \$1,600 limitation on weatherization spending per house for both labor and materials with the material ceiling being lifted. Administrative overhead and training costs are not included. The subgrantees are to use CETA labor whenever it is available." Another problem that I think is corrected now. "CETA labor is paid for out of U. S. Department of Labor funds and would not count in the above-mentioned limitation on expenditure per house of U. S. Department of Energy funds." I am going to skip part of the letter. Anyway the