

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 1, 2001

LB 543

\$2 million, each of the others getting less than that, and the church schools can dip into the other two in addition to their excess appropriation. I don't believe that the Legislature has thought deeply about this issue. I do believe that if the Legislature thought deeply about it,...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that PEAP program would be abolished. There is no need for it. The church schools can go into the other two funds. Why do they need a separate fund exclusively theirs? It makes no rational sense. Why do I put rational in front of sense? Is that redundant? Well, we say nonsense, so I say the corollary is rational sense, which this program does not make. I offered a motion to cut the increase just from the PEA program. The Legislature rejected that which helps establish the record of what the intent of the Legislature is. This amendment would cut the increase from all of these programs, and that's what this...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...amendment does. Is that my third time?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Yes, Senator. (Visitor introduced.) Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm debating what I ought to do. I'm going to take this motion to a vote because I think there needs to be a record, and then I'm debating within myself what else I ought to do with this budget. I find this provision that relates to money for these church schools to be repugnant. It is totally without justification. I'm going to get a fresh perspective on this whole thing. I'd like to ask Senator Erdman a question.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Erdman, would you respond?

SENATOR ERDMAN: Yes, Mr. President.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Erdman, you bring relatively new,