

the age of nineteen. Currently under Medicaid law an individual is covered up to age twenty-one so long as they are attending either high school, a vocational school or college, so that this first change would significantly reduce the benefits of those individuals who are attending educational institutions. Medicaid benefits are deleted for persons age eighteen to twenty-one who were former ADC recipients but who are currently not eligible for an ADC grant because of age or because they are not in school. Further, pregnant women would no longer be eligible for ADC as soon as the pregnancy is medically verified. Payments to the mother would be made only in the third trimester and the unborn child would not be part of the ADC unit until the child was born. Dependent children over ages sixteen who are not attending school will be required to register for work. ADC benefits will not be available to persons who are on strike and then, finally, the last section, a 10% collection fee would be imposed against any nonADC parent who is delinquent in child support payments. Those are the provisions of the bill as introduced. The bill was introduced exactly to meet the requirements of the federal government as mandated by federal law. The committee proposed and adopted and recommends for the approval of the Legislature a number of changes in this bill. It is not the intent of the Public Health and Welfare Committee to in any way jeopardize federal funds. The changes that the committee suggests will do several things. First of all, benefits would be available to pregnant women as soon as the pregnancy is medically verified and, too, unborn children will be eligible for ADC benefits as well from the time that the pregnancy is verified. State funds would pay for those persons who do not meet federal qualifications. Medical assistance would be available to women who meet ADC standards as soon as the pregnancy is medically verified and then we make some technical changes in the 10% collection fee but the major change that we make is the 10% collection fee would be assessed against all persons with delinquent child support payments. We felt there were some technical problems with the way that section of the bill was originally drafted and I also felt there were some equal protection problems and that we were making an unreasonable classification of individuals who were delinquent in meeting child support payments whether they were...the same law should apply to individuals whether their spouse is receiving ADC benefits or not receiving ADC benefits so we tried to eliminate or did eliminate at least the equal protection argument so far as the child support payments collection fee is concerned. The bill does have a fiscal impact. I don't recall the exact figures off the top of my head at this point in time. It is two hundred and I believe twenty thousand dollars for this session of the Legislature to