

November 5, 1981

LB 7

support Senator Pirsch. I think that it is utterly ridiculous to start ADC payments at the beginning of pregnancy. In real life women have very little retardation from pregnancy in the first months, and I had a gal work in my office this summer who worked up until about two weeks before she had her baby. It may even have been closer than that. I understand she is back at work now. These are the people that pay the taxes, provide the funding for those that you are talking about. Now I think we need to provide service to those that really are down and out and need help, but to start in the early stages of pregnancy to start doling out money just because they are pregnant doesn't sound very reasonable to me. Some countries back at least during the World War II days were paying women to have children so that they would have soldiers, I suppose, and I don't know whether there is any of that going on today. But we have surrogate mothers today who are providing babies for families that do not...are not able to have children. I wonder if we are going to find out if we mothers that we help are going to get let's say up to \$10,000 for their baby when it finally is born. So I think we need to look at this thing very carefully. I am certainly for helping bring those children into the world because I am not pro-abortion. I am strictly against abortion. But to start from day one or day two or at least a month later when the pregnancy occurred, I think is going way too far. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to vigorously oppose the Pirsch amendment. I have not had the personal type of experience that Senator Pirsch can relate, but I just wanted to point out to you that most of us in this body are not in a position to know the situation that many of these young ladies find themselves in. I would just like to say that first of all it must, of course, meet the low income requirements. If there are resources within a family, those resources must be used and be made available. Now the problem has occurred and I am sure that most of us have seen it happen where a pregnancy has occurred in a very young girl and the family has thrown her out in all of their righteous indignation, and I ask you then where is that child supposed to go? I would point out, as Senator Fowler has pointed out, last year there were five pregnancies of 13 year old girls in this state. There were 27 girls 14 years of age. There were 116 young ladies 15 years of age. There were 285 girls that were 16. There was an initial 3308 pregnancies of women between 17 and 20 years of age. Now the point I