

construction of his call and those two provisions are contained in the early pages of the bill. So if we are to follow the Attorney General's opinion literally and the strict construction of the call literally, there are two provisions that the Governor himself asked us to introduce in that bill that we could not introduce, that we could not deal with legislatively. Now another fallacy, I think, with the Attorney General's opinion, and Senator Johnson pointed this out as well, and Senator Fowler has been pointing this out all afternoon, is that in the last page, the last paragraph, why the Assistant Attorney General indicates that it is wrong for us to permit ADC benefits to be paid for the first and second trimester of a pregnancy because that constitutes, and I am quoting the opinion, "an act authorizing additional benefits". Now there are no additional benefits authorized by LB 7. LB 7 simply funds the same benefits, first and second trimester pregnancy benefits that have been in state law for several years now. It doesn't authorize any additional benefits. It simply changes the mechanism for funding those benefits. Now again going back to the Arrow Club opinion that Senator Beutler quoted from, I think that our authority to amend and to change the ADC law in that area clearly falls within the language of Judge Boslaugh in the opinion that Senator Beutler read. So I would concur with the other people that have spoken on this issue that there really is no constitutional prohibition whatsoever to our doing this if we want to do it. So when you vote on Senator Warner's amendment, what you really ought to be voting on are the merits of the issue as we voted on them earlier today and yesterday, that is, do you think that we ought to give benefits to first or second trimester pregnancies and that again gets back to the issues that Senator Labeledz and others have talked about in previous debate. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner, you will close then.

SENATOR WARNER: Am I closing?

PRESIDENT: Yes, Senator Warner, you are closing. No further lights are on so you may proceed to close on your motion.

SENATOR WARNER: Okay, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I am going to recite to you the chronological order of things that occurred for me today, and I am not going to argue whether the Attorney General's opinion is correct or incorrect. That, as has already been stated, is each of your own judgments. I hadn't become particularly interested in this bill in this kind of depth until this morning when I begin to look at the fiscal notes a little more closely,