

got a lot of resources out there, and if we can help them pull them together, it's going to make a big difference in the lives of children and families. And the only way I think...there isn't a soul in here that wouldn't argue that if you get to a kid and if you get to a family early enough, that you can make a difference. You can...you can prevent them from getting into criminal activity and, yes, you can probably prevent them from getting into activities that perhaps will lead to unwanted pregnancies. And that's probably the only way to really avoid some of these other more difficult and contentious issues that divide not only this body but apparently the whole nation right now. And so I would suggest to you that if your intention...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: ...is to put money out to the communities and help them address these problems, rather than throw up our hands and say, gee, there's nothing we can do because we can't agree on an issue that apparently nobody can agree on, that you're really doing a disservice to the communities. You're really not trusting the people of the state to do the right thing. And I trust my communities to not bring in propos...they can't bring in a proposal that does not have community acceptance. And I would say, given the discussions we have had on this floor, that you might have the...you would have the same kinds of discussions in a community, because you have to go to the mayor and the city council and the service providers and get sign-offs on the kinds of activities you propose before you can even bring a grant in. And so I think we're making much ado about nothing here and we're just about to put a bill in jeopardy that, frankly, is a community's only hope of getting help out there and I just think that's the wrong thing to do. I think this whole issue has been allowed to sidetrack us from what really should be our goal and that is to help kids and to help families and to get money out to communities. And so I would urge you to...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: ...return this bill to Select File and put the severability clause on it and let's quit goofing around.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Labeledz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. President. I rise also to