

into. I just would urge you to include this in the override, along with the ADC money that Senator Ashford talked about because women and children are at risk in the domestic violence, that's who are hurt. And we talk a lot about taking care of children and you all know I'm pro-life but I am also...I want to take care of those children who are here. And, for that reason, I hope that you will vote to override on the domestic violence and on the ADC. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. For purposes of discussion, the Chair recognizes Senator Chambers, followed by Senators Withem, Goodrich and Warner.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, both of these amounts are modest and the amount of good that they can do would be incalculable. We have a situation on the ADC proposal where women with children are in the process of trying to find employment. Unfortunately, there have been women prosecuted for fraud because after obtaining work they did not immediately notify the Department of Social Services that they were employed. So having continued to obtain money, they were charged with fraud. Some were sent to York. And I think it's kind of a tragedy when women who are trying to rear their children, women who are impoverished and in most cases are the only bread winner for their family can be faced with prison as a result of trying to get a job and go to work and leave the welfare rolls altogether. So I hope that, in view of the kinds of things we discussed last week, we will carry over that same fervor and assist these women and these children who, obviously, need our help. The society, in seeking social justice, has a responsibility to see that the strong will help bear the infirmities of the weak. And in this instance we're dealing with probably the weakest two classes, the single female who heads a household and the dependent children. So I hope that we will override that. It's not necessary that too much be said about the domestic violence side of it because that term is almost self-explanatory. But in all of these shelters, all of these agencies that try to do something to mitigate the problems of domestic violence, the caseloads are increasing, the people who are there and the services necessary seem to be diminishing when viewed or proportioned to the need. So I hope these two modest amounts will be restored so that the help can go directly to these people who need it so much.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Withem. Thank you.