

SENATOR PIRSCH: I appreciate the debate today and I appreciate those who came up to me and offered their support. And, Senator Moore and Senator Bernard-Stevens, I don't know if I appreciate you yet or not. But I...I, again, plead with you, if we have promised this and this is kind of a pivotal year in many areas and I think this is a pivotal year for this program. And I know some have tried very hard to find alternate funding. Until we do that, we need General File funding. We need it because we need the 40 percent federal match. We need it, most of all, because it helps those who are the very lowest on the totem pole. They have no other source of recovery or insurance. They're an innocent victim. They have not violated any criminal law. The loss exceeds 10 percent of their net financial resources. We're talking about a victim who, through no fault of their own, has had their financial, their emotional and their physical loss. I would hope that you would vote for this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Pirsch. You've heard the closing on the amendment offered by Senator Pirsch. We will now vote on the amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on the Pirsch amendment. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Pirsch's amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: The Pirsch amendment is adopted. Mr. Clerk, items for the record.

CLERK: Yes, Mr. President, Senator Pirsch, I understand then you want to withdraw. Senator Pirsch, you will withdraw the second amendment, Senator. Thank you. Mr. President, a hearing notice from Revenue Committee. Senator Labeledz has amendments to LB 1148 and Senator Haberman to LB 1272; Senator Robak, LB 1098. That's all that I have, Mr. President. (See pages 1422-28 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Hartnett, would you like to make an announcement, please.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Just an announcement that Fort Crook Elementary School from my district are going to have their singing Falcons down in the Rotunda at noon today. So I would like to have you come and listen to them if you have a minute.