

September 28, 1992 LB 20

SENATOR LINDSAY: On page 1, strike beginning with October in line 2, through the underscored period in line 8, which would be the end of the amendment, and insert December 1, 1992. What...in effect, what the standing committee amendment would say then is on page 4, line 19 of the bill, it would insert December 1, 1992. Basically, it just makes the bill effective December 1, 1992 instead of immediately.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, thank you. Did you say, Senator Lindsay, that the reason for this change is to get some federal matching money?

SENATOR LINDSAY: That's right, so that we don't disqualify ourselves from the federal financial participation, right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So it has nothing to do with the fact that women would really need this money. If some could have been cut off, and you not lose the federal money, then that would have been all right with the committee members. It must have been, because that's what the effect of the amendment would have been without this new provision.

SENATOR LINDSAY: You phrased it other than I would, but yeah.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I phrase it directly and truthfully because I'm not battling with my conscience, as you are now, in my opinion. And I'll tell you why I say that. Senator Lindsay and others who are supporting what this bill does, this nefarious bill does, would not be in the position they're in today if they had not been persuaded that the financial crisis of the state is so bad that it's necessary to cut these poor women, who everybody could agree need the money that is being taken from them. I'm not one who will go along with that philosophy. Senator Schmit already touched on it earlier, and from time to time others of us have talked about it. This idea of the rich and the powerful being able to get whatever they want from this Legislature and, once having obtained a boon, never have to worry about losing it. But those who are poor, those who are not well educated, those who are ill in body or mind never have their battles won permanently. They always are available for attack or for cutting when it comes to financial assistance from the state. Senator Schmit said that Burbach told him that the main function of the Legislature is to take care of roads, and fight crime, and help those who cannot help themselves. We're dealing with a category of women in that situation. Even those