

September 28, 1992 LB 20

who support what LB 20 is going to try to do are not in a position to say that, without this bill in effect and leaving things as they are, that women are getting rich on this piddling amount of money that they're given. They have to meet other eligibility requirements first. So to spend so much time on this floor talking about the unborn, I don't see any way in the world that this bill can pass. Why with all of the cosponsors on those anti abortion bills, how can those same people turn around...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...now and not give assistance to the women who are pregnant and struggling to carry their pregnancy to term. How can that be done? Before, when they argued for the anti abortion bills, they talked about morality and principle, but now that morality comes into a clash with political considerations, morality, as always happens, gets the short end of the stick.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. I do want to clarify the fiscal impacts of the issue. And I know that Senator Chambers is concentrating on the human impacts of the issue, and I think that's very appropriate, so I don't want to discount the arguments he's making. But, for the record, I do want to indicate, again, the thinking of the committee. Originally, the proposal that would have eliminated the funding, starting until the point at which the baby is born, would save, in the fiscal year 1993, 1.2 million. If you look into the bill book, you'll see a fiscal note that indicates that savings of 1 million, so that is a change from the fiscal note you have in your book. And if we do not adopt the amendment that Senator Lindsay and I are offering to the committee amendments, the committee amendments, if they are put into effect, would reduce that first year savings from 1.2 to about 750,000, so it's about a \$500,000 reduction in savings. And, obviously, as Senator Chambers says, that's exactly the reason we're here. I don't think any of us in support of the bill, by and large, would be supporting the bill if it were not for the problems we're having with the budget and the intent to try and save some money to balance the budget. So those dollar figures are important. I don't know if this is the time or place to talk about some of the concerns Senator Chambers is raising and will be raising,