

September 28, 1992 LB 20

Nebraska the average ADC family has 2.0 children with 79 percent of these children under 10 years old, and over half of the children on ADC, 54 percent, have fathers that are or were married to their mother. I wish that you would concentrate on those statistics that I've been quoting to you and that are on this sheet, because I think it brings home to each one of us that Nebraska ADC and the recipients are different perhaps than the national. I'm very proud of Nebraska that we've had this program since 1982, that when the gestation period is confirmed and that the woman is definitely going to have the child that the monthly stipend begins and she starts getting that payment. It helps her for her psychological and physical well-being to be able to cope with the extra expenses that come along. And if she misses a day at work, because most of them work at temporary or part-time jobs,...

SENATOR CONWAY: One minute.

SENATOR CROSBY: ...if she misses a day at work, she loses a day's pay. She has no benefits from that work because she's not a full-time employee. So again, look at the people, think about the people that we're talking about, and try to find it in your heart. I guess I'll vote for this amendment, but I'm still...I don't want the bill. I think it's a bad bill. I think we can find some other way to cope with these problems. And I don't think, again, I've said this earlier today, we don't have to solve all these problems in seven days. Thank you.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Wehrbein. It's not necessary, you're the last light. Senator Lindsay, can we turn to you for a closing, please.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Senator Conway, members. Senator Moore, I guess, tried a little bit to get us back to the issue at hand. The issue at hand is the amendment to the committee amendment. Remind the body what this would do. The amendment would simply bring us into conformity with federal guidelines, would bow, in Senator Chambers' words, to the supreme being, the federal government. Unfortunately, the federal government, when they hold the purse strings, they are supreme. And in order to hang onto some of the money that's coming from the feds we do have to comply with the regulations. What this would do is to allow women who are currently on the program, and any, I guess, that qualify over the next couple of months, to allow them to continue to receive payments for October and November. It would