

September 28, 1992 LB 20

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Senator Chambers, could you explain, if you would, this amendment to me. Would you mind answering a question about it?

SENATOR CONWAY: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, and I'll make it very brief.

SENATOR ASHFORD: You can make it as long as you want.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right now, as soon as pregnancy is confirmed and a woman meets eligibility, these payments are given. This amendment would say during the last three months of the pregnancy the payment would be given, instead of being cut off all together.

SENATOR ASHFORD: But it also...what's the...it also includes a...another...what is Section B, subsection 2(b) talk about? It talks about 185 percent of poverty. Does that have to do with...is that what that does?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's the original law now for determining eligibility.

SENATOR ASHFORD: For ADC?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Uh-huh, I guess. Yeah, that's not changed from what the law is now. Wait a minute.

SENATOR ASHFORD: The reason I ask the question, Senator Chambers, is I think that what you've done here, I think the second section has to do with medical, it's Medicaid, Medicaid assistance to 185 percent of poverty. But, anyway, I believe what Senator...I believe what this amendment...the amendment does two things. It does, as Senator Chambers suggests, shorten the time period to three months for the payment of...for the ADC payment. But it also increases the, to 185 percent of poverty, the Medicaid payments for pregnant mothers, which is not a bad idea, actually. Except it's too...and if we were going to...that, in my view, would be a much better way to address the ADC problem than the first part. But I guess my...and maybe Senator Chambers can address that. But you've done...that's a fairly significant policy change, I think. Okay. I just wanted to clarify that. So what this does do, in the second section,