

September 29, 1992 LB 3, 20

Withem to LB 3. (See pages 113-15 of the Legislative Journal.) Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to reconsider the vote just taken on Senator Crosby's amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I don't like to be too predictable, but I think I'm becoming somewhat that way during this special session. However, that's one of the prices of being enmeshed in the kind of situation that's confronting us right now or maybe I should say confronting me. There are a few of us who really are locked into this problem and cannot let the bill go as it is written. And I assure you that we're putting forth the best effort to bring about some modification. But unfortunately, the way this process operates, the totality of the ingredients necessary to arrive at an alteration of position, Senator Schrock, that totality of ingredients is not found within this Legislative Chamber; but work is being undertaken. But in the meantime, the issues that we've talked about remain unchanged. And even should LB 20 be modified so that the harm it does is lessened, there remains a problem that is going to continue to be with us no matter what happens with LB 20 as a matter of fact. That problem is how Nebraska is going to respond to the needs of the people in this state who are not able to take care of all of the needs that they have. When we talk about keeping families together or lauding the concept of the family, are we only going to talk about it or will we do something about it? I think that is the crucial issue in everything that we've been discussing. Sometimes the debate has gone far afield. But because we're dealing with essential human problems, everything that has been said has been relevant. There is nothing that has been stated by anybody on this floor which in my opinion has not contributed something. Even people who are in error, if they're stating what they honestly believe then their opinion is as worthy of consideration as anybody else's, but it's not worthy of being followed. So when we say everybody is entitled to their opinion, that's a statement we should make advisedly. We are not entitled to be in error. We shouldn't have our head chopped off. The goal of the mind is to know. The natural inclination of the mind is toward the truth. Sometimes we misperceive what is true. But if after we've thought about something and we've taken away every ulterior motive and we're trying to arrive at the facts as they exist, the inclination of the mind is to take us to what the real fact is even if a part of us wants to deny