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dealing with ADC unborn program. If you look at the comparison between the state-only program and the elimination of the entire program, you will see roughly the budget figures involved. Although that's complicated by the fact that the committee amendment did delay for two months the start of the cut-off but, again, that was to indicate that those on the program needed some time to move off of that and, likewise, we need time to get approval from the federal government to make this change in our system. So, in my view, this is a reasonable proposal. Again, as I said earlier, two-thirds of the states or territories take a position similar to this; about one-third of the states take a position similar to the original bill, a little harsher version of this proposal, and so I do think we've come to a fairly common ground, I hope. With that, I do support the amendment.

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

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I've been relatively silent on this although folks have heard some of my conversation off the mike. This has not been a difficult...this has been a difficult bill for me to decide what to do. I came to this Legislature to advocate for children, as most people are aware of. So folks have said, where are you on this? My answer to that is, I don't support programs simply because they have the word woman in them or simply because they have the word child or simply because they have the word poor in them. I'm not even going to support them if they have all three words in that program or that piece of legislation. I am going to support those programs that promote the health and well-being of women and children. I asked questions in the hearing hoping that I would hear that that is what has been happening with this investment over the last several years with this program. I asked, are there more women participating in prenatal care because of this investment? Well, we don't think so. Are there more women participating in WIC? Well, we're not sure. Are there more healthy babies being born? We don't know. Are these women all sustaining their pregnancy? Well, we're not sure. The problem was there were no answers, no information about the impact of this investment for the last eight or ten years. I do not fault the women who have been receiving these payments. I fault the design of the program. I don't even fault the social workers. Somebody said earlier, well, maybe they should have been doing a better job of collecting information. By design, they weren't expected to collect that information. We simply said if you're poor and you're pregnant, you're going to get