

time that they discover that they're pregnant. Is that correct?

SENATOR PIRSCH: If...yes, that's true. The original statute, if we do not pass 658, it will automatically go back, this fall, to paying from the moment of what I call the moment of conception, but, of course, that's the confirmation of pregnancy. So that would be the entire nine months. If we do nothing, that will happen and this will be significant, I think it's \$7 million.

SENATOR WITEK: And the change that was made in this body was to move that back to just the last trimester for payment?

SENATOR PIRSCH: Well, in 1992, because we had a crunch in special session, that...this bill was introduced by Senator Lindsay to eliminate it until the birth of the child. And at that time the compromise was to pay for the last trimester, but that will sunset.

SENATOR WITEK: And now a new compromise is being proposed to pay for the entire time if they qualify at 150 percent of poverty level.

SENATOR PIRSCH: No, we will not pay cash payments for any of the nine months. What we are doing with this committee amendment is saying that health care for the pregnant woman would be expanded to those that now are disqualified, from 133 percent up to 150 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. So more women will receive health care, but they will...but the trade-off is we will not give them cash payments.

SENATOR WITEK: Okay. So we're going beyond what the federal government is even giving here, if we expand...if the federal government guidelines are 133 percent and now we're expanding it to 150 percent

SENATOR PIRSCH: No, actually the federal guidelines, and Senator Wesely can correct me, go up even farther than the 150 percent. And we talked about this in committee. I think Senator Wesely's original bill was up to 180 percent of federal poverty. And, indeed, I think he's introduced this other years, and it has had some support. But that is just entirely, you know, too much, and so Senator Jensen spoke up that on surrounding states 150 percent, I believe it was Iowa that he referred to,...