

situation. We're now talking about the value we place on human life. We are talking about a set of circumstances where a woman who is impoverished is trying to carry a pregnancy to term. She has reached the sixth month. In my view, and I voted to support legislation of that kind, the assistance should start from the confirmation of conception. These issues are dealt with on different levels. When it comes to assisting a poor woman to carry a pregnancy to term, and that's what she has a desire to do, I will support everything that helps her in that regard. If I'm confronted with a situation where a woman wants to have an abortion, that is a choice and a decision which she should make without any interference from me and, in my opinion, anybody else. If there is indeed a value placed on human life, as I hear said so much, and all antiabortion bills pass this Legislature, where are those voices now? Show me a thing or two. Teach me, Senator Pirsch, and all you others who vote against every abortion rights bill. Show me that genuine concern for the woman that, in my opinion, you hypocritically hide behind in order to vote against a woman's right to have an abortion. We're on your territory now. We're talking about a bill to help sustain what you call human life. You refer to this which we are talking about as an unborn child. You don't want to feed the children in being. You don't want to help assist those who are bringing what you call the unborn child to term under healthful conditions. That would boggle my mind if I hadn't been in the Legislature as long as I have been and if I didn't know that so many principles and morals are like chameleons, they change to fit the terrain of whatever issue we're discussing. This is not a death penalty abolition bill where some of you say the state should kill those who have committed a crime. This is not an abortion bill where people, such as myself, are arguing for the right of a woman to make that decision unimpeded by the state. We are talking about what you refer to as unborn human life and a woman struggling to reach the point where she can bring that unborn human life to the point of being born. And this pittance that we offer is too much for that? Everybody who has stood on this floor and voted against a woman's right to decide to have an abortion should be voting against Senator Pirsch's bill. This issue cannot be reduced conveniently to a dollar and cents proposition. It should be one of those issues that would tear us up inside if we're going to deny those women who need this assistance, this tiny bit. I listened to...Senator Pirsch said these women several times, and at the time she used that term I was glad I was not a woman. I mean, a cold chill went down my spine the