

policy for the State of Nebraska. What the federal government does or does not do shouldn't influence us, because if it does, then what they're doing in other areas, defeating balanced budget amendments, I assume that's not a direction that many in here would have us...have us go, but that's the way the federal government has gone. It seems to me that what other states are doing, other states have punitive damages. Should Nebraska adopt punitive damages because other states have them? I don't think so. I think the thrust of this is that the pol...if the policy reason, or I mean if the rationale for adopting this or passing this bill is simply because other states are moving in that direction, the federal government is moving in that direction,...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR LINDSAY: ...I completely disagree with that as an underlying reason. I have yet...if there are other rationale, and Senator Pirsch has touched on those, and as the debate continues, I will ask for other policies and try to discuss those. But that, as a policy reason, simply because other states and the federal government are doing it, I think simply does not carry any weight whatsoever. That is, I think, a very, a nonreason to pass legislation. I will be supporting the Chambers amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Lindsay. Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you. Senator Lindsay, you didn't listen to my last half and, of course, it wasn't very short. But I agree with you, this is a clear policy choice. And the information that Senator Wesely passed out is, indeed, wrong. Massachusetts does not pay from the first confirmation. We called them yesterday. Michael Bronte (phonetic) from the Massachusetts Research and Policy Analyst's Office was the one we talked to on that. But this is a clear policy choice. Nebraska would be the only state and that may be what many of you want to do. That would pay from the moment of confirmation of pregnancy if you eliminate the original 658 with this. Now, you know, Nebraska then would be the only state that provides ADC cash from the beginning of pregnancy. Current trimester payment is subsidized by some general...by some federal funds and that's the last trimester. But if Congress passes the Personal Responsibility Act, this federal money will certainly not be available for pregnant teens and probably won't be