

April 5, 1995

LB 548

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...what it is that you are mentioning, there...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, let me tell you...

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...there is no language that addresses the problem, so there would have to be a decision made as to whether there was a pro rata distribution based upon the amount of funds available, or whether some sort of supplemental appropriation would be appropriate. We just...I just haven't gotten...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...to that point because I think the first point you have to get to is the matter of funding in the first instance.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Members of the Legislature, the reason I'm raising this point is to show that whatever methodology is used to fund it, there are serious problems to be overcome that have not even been addressed. Some of these things I have not mentioned before because I thought we would go ahead and repeal the existing law. But here's what you need to look at. These agencies that administer funds and laws cannot on their own amend statutes. They cannot determine that there is going to be some pro rata distribution of this money when they don't even have a basis for doing it. Whoever comes first and qualifies is entitled to take the full amount that they are entitled to under the bill. And if the taking of that to which they are entitled...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...exhausts the fund, that is what would happen.

SPEAKER WITHEM: I would like to make an announcement here that Senator Wesely in the north balcony does have 34 fourth graders from St. John Catholic Church here in Lincoln with their instructor. If you'd all stand and be recognized. And also there is a fairly old tradition in Dodge County where the first Wednesday after the first Monday in April is always Dodge County Sausage Day, and to commemorate that, Senator Ray Janssen has