

diapers, all the little...until you have a baby, and I know everyone of you on this floor know what I'm saying, you don't realize how much those little people add to your budget. I certainly didn't. I knew I was having a baby but until the baby came I didn't think of all those extra expenses. So when I talk about the mother and the child, that's what I'm talking about. We must think of that mother and child and whatever we do today with LB 455 nobody can argue about trying to make the system work better. I don't...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time.

SENATOR CROSBY: ...argue about that. Thank you. I will speak again later today.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I do apologize for the language in the handout that I handed out on my amendments and I did understand that this has to do with needs and not the payments. But I think really the bottom reason for putting out this amendment, other than I want it adopted, was to get this discussion going that we're having now and to get some of these questions answered because otherwise sometimes, especially with committee amendments, they kind of go pretty quickly and are attached to the bill. So we're getting an opportunity to discuss the differences of opinions in policy. These are policy decisions that you're making. My first amendment was a decision on policy for health care. This decision is a policy on how many individuals will qualify for ADC and how that qualification will be made by what standards that will be made to, and this section says that it will be tied to the Consumer Price Index. And Senator Wesely has made the statement that had we had this in place that I believe he said that right now 43 percent are below that and that at least...he said two figures, 43 percent and 57 percent, and so I'm not sure which one is the definite one, but would be qualified at this time for this program. So he also, when answering Senator Maurstad's question, said, yes, if we make this change, more people will qualify, we will broaden the pool. And so that brings more people onto this program, this government program, and, yes, the costs will increase. They may not increase per person proportionately but they definitely will increase. We have been given no fiscal note, that I know of, on any of these changes on the committee amendments. I've asked members of the