

April 10, 1995

LB 455

Senator Witek, I'd like to ask you a question about your amendment and it will not be in the context of scripture or anything like that.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Are you saying that if a poor woman is taking a course of study which would prepare her for a job, maybe one that is actually available, you would want to cut off that assistance to her because it's too high a level of education for a poor woman to achieve with the assistance of the state, is that what you're saying?

SENATOR WITEK: I'm saying there has to be some balance here and we've got to help the majority of people that we can help that need help.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's not what I asked you.

SENATOR WITEK: And I think cutting it off at the level of a high school education is a reasonable balance between what we can afford and what can be done.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Witek, do you think a high school education sufficiently equips everybody to obtain employment that would enable him or her to take care of a family, is that what you're saying?

SENATOR WITEK: It does for the Legislature.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, Senator Witek, all you have to be is the agent outside of the penitentiary to be in the Legislature, so this is not a way...a standard for judging anything. I'm talking about in the real world.

SENATOR WITEK: It does for many of the people that I know...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay.

SENATOR WITEK: ...have a high school education and have achieved a level of certainly monetary comfort where they can take care of a family on a high school education.