

opposition to it at that time and those of us who favor the amendment expressed our reasons for favoring it. First of all, I am not interested in deal-making. I am interested in legislation which is going to serve a beneficial and worthwhile purpose. The beneficial and worthwhile purpose served by the language which Senator Pirsch is trying to strike is to make prenatal care available to poor women. I find it kind of ironic, and I know Senator Pirsch didn't plan it this way, but at a time when people throughout the country are wringing their hands and mourning about the children who died in that explosion in Oklahoma City, we have a proposal before us to take away needed prenatal care from poor women who cannot afford it. The very terminology of the bill let's us know to whom the bill is addressed and for whom it is intended. If a woman does not meet the requirements relative to poverty, this bill will not apply, and if Nebraska, especially senators who have adopted Senator Pirsch's attitude toward what they call pro-life issues mean what they say, they should be more willing than I, if that were possible, which I think it's not, but for the sake of discussion, they should be more willing than I am to provide that care to poor women which will help them carry a pregnancy to term and have a greater likelihood of delivering a healthy baby. We are supposedly, based on the policy of this state, concerned about that which has been referred to as an unborn child. Let me ask Senator Pirsch a question, because I have never had a child and she has had six. Senator Pirsch, what does the term prenatal refer to?

SENATOR PIRSCH: Before the birth of the child.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, I thought...I just wanted to be sure that I am not putting myself on the end of a plank that will be cut off from me because I don't know what I am talking about.

SENATOR PIRSCH: That was easy.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And that is the only question I wanted to ask you. So Senator Pirsch and I agree on what prenatal means. Let me ask Senator Pirsch another question, which is just as easy. Senator Pirsch, under the language of this bill, are we talking about women who could be described as poor?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: That depends on what standard you are using,