

SENATOR PIRSCH: All right, thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: You are requesting a call of the house?

SENATOR PIRSCH: Yes.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Question is, shall the house go under call? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record,

CLERK: 8 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President, to go under call.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The house is under call. Members, please return to the floor and record their presence. Senator Pirsch, you may continue.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. We are voting on an amendment by me which is found on Journal page 1459, which adds that...which retains the 150 percent that we are allowing Senator Wesely's bill, which was the committee amendment. We are keeping in the cash payments for the last three months, but what my amendment would do that in those last three months of pregnancy that we give cash and that the term "dependent child" will only be for the first unborn child of that pregnant woman. This is more limiting. What we are saying is that if that woman does have necessary expenses to care for a child, to perhaps buy a bed, perhaps buy a highchair, buy a layette, buy diapers, then, indeed, perhaps the cash payments are valid. But I think that it is only in the case of when this is preparing for your first child that the cash payments should be allowed. And again it requi...it is not the same as what we already have in the welfare bill because a woman can come into the program pregnant, a woman can come into the welfare program and while they are excluded from cash payments for another child after the ten months this does not cover those women who are pregnant when they come into the program. But we're going to say, yes, we will give them cash during the last three months of pregnancy. It does not change that. It just limits that to those women who we have heard have the need for the cash payment in the last three months for equipment for that child, to prepare for the child. Again, I say where are the fathers to help prepare, and certainly don't want to take them off the spot. But this is the cash aid for the first unborn child of the pregnant woman during the last three months of pregnancy.