

needs to be on the record. When you talk about low income means an income of 150 percent and et cetera, et cetera. and you get down at the national poverty income level without regard to other resources. And my question to you is, if I have an income below the income level of the very poor, but I have \$10 million in savings and bonds and et cetera, does that mean that I can still qualify? You're talking about income. You're talking about what my income is. My income as a state senator is not very high. But I could have a lot of money laid away in other resources. And according to the way I read this, that means that I could still qualify regardless of the amount of money I might have in other resources.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I believe the definition was intended to take into account the elderly and the possibility that there are some elderly who have low incomes, that might qualify in this particular regard. If you want to further qualify the definition to eliminate the words "without regard to other resources," that's fine with me. That's the definition we picked up from, I think, the federal government or someplace. I have to go back to my staff to see where we picked it up.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, I, you know, I certainly don't want to make an issue out of it, but I think the very fact that it says in there "without regard to other resources" means that you could have resources of any kind, any place, that were not a part of your income. For example, if you owned a lot of land or some other type of thing, and yet your income from, which often happens...your income is not very big, you'd still qualify. And I guess there are a number of areas where this bothers me to think that maybe somebody that was indeed somewhat wealthy could, in fact, because of the income they had, be able to qualify for this program. And I guess I'd just like to have...you know, maybe I don't understand it, the way it's supposed to be, but I just read it the way it is and I just wanted an explanation that would satisfy me in order to, to more clearly understand what you're trying to do. And I understand what you're trying to do, I just don't know if this accomplishes it or not.

SENATOR BEUTLER: You want a tight...you want to cut it back even more to be sure there's...

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, I just want to make...