

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 23, 1999 LB 495

the same way about creating a bureaucracy or a board or a commission that maybe is designed to help people who can't help themselves. You're willing to throw away three million something dollars 'cause you happen to have it on hand and you don't even care what happens after that. I going to see if that's going to be the attitude and if it's not then I'm going to be irritated and I'm going to express my irritation through extended discussion of such bills. This is not the time for us to do what is being done here. Nothing, as far as the welfare of this state, will be hurt if we do not pass this bill. Nothing is going to be hurt. No train is going to be thrown off the track, but passing this bill is not going to lay a track, it's not going to put a train on the track. It's just going to say we're doing this to make somebody feel good. We don't know what it's going to achieve, if anything, but since we're just doing it one time it doesn't matter. I haven't heard the Legislature spending money in that fashion during the time that I've been in this Legislature. They certainly haven't accommodated programs I've been interested in helping, and I know of other senators who have brought forth programs and the money has not been thrown to it in this manner. So I want people to explain to me, are they paying debts? Is that what this bill is? Is this a payback bill? Is this to reward people for things...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that they've done in the past or things they're expected to do in the future? Because it makes no legislative sense whatsoever. And when Senator Stuhr gets a chance to talk, she may not want to answer...respond to it, but maybe I'm misunderstanding the bill. Look at Section 6 which starts in line 26 on page 4. And it talks about "Any amounts not utilized for the purposes stipulated under subsection (4)", which would indicate to me you can only spend this money for what you find in subsection (4) and if it's not spent for that it has to go for some other purpose.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. A couple comments in regard to Senator Chambers'