

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

March 7, 2000

LB 1101

society, whether a citizen or not, no person is allowed to fall below that floor in terms of those essential things of life that every person needs in order to have a decent life that comports with human dignity. That's what I believe. And I support amendments and bills that seek to do that and those bills are shot down unceremoniously. But I'm not in favor of taking legislation and putting it behind a title that makes it seem like it's very good and is going to be effectual, when upon examination, that is not the case at all. This bill is not worthy of enactment into law. I believe that with the same specificity that the drafters of this bill put in terms of the populations to be served, and you can find that in Section 5 of the bill, the same thing can be done when we're talking about other criteria, which are to be employed for determining who is going to get these jobs, because it is a job, it's paid, the types of services that are to be made available, and make no reference to the federal law at all because this is a totally state funded program. I always hear people on this floor saying we don't like these federal mandates, we don't like the federal government telling us to do this, and I say "government". It's three syllables but I...maybe I ought to stop saying that "govment", two syllables, what the "govment" requires. Then when the "govment" is not even in the picture, the Legislature is going to reach out and say, "govment, order us what to do." What kind of sense does that make? If it's a state program consider whether it is going to do the things that it's supposedly designed for. I was told by the earlier discussions engaged in by the chief introducer that there are areas of the state where people live who need these services but those people are not getting those services.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN PRESIDING

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I was told that this bill is designed to fill that gap. Then I look at the bill and the language does not achieve that. It does not restrict this money, the small amount that it is, to the people who would be in those areas. Let's say they get \$2 an hour. That would be \$200,000, 2 into 200,000 is 100,000. That means there are 100,000 hours of work available for all the people who are going to be in this