

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

April 4, 2005

LB 709

Incentivize and encourage...or, excuse me, allow persons to participate in savings accounts to set aside dollars into tax-exempt status to provide for long-term care. That was a bill that Senator Redfield...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR JENSEN: ...introduced. I don't know where that is. Our college savings plan four years ago started from nothing; today it's got \$1 billion in it. If people had a method of setting aside dollars for long-term care, I believe that the citizens of this state would do that. Allow persons to set aside dollar...or, assets for long-term care, then allow them to either hold it or convey the assets to their family members, but also allow them to set aside dollars that would not be taxed that would be free from their estate. We need to increase our support for community health centers and the federally qualified health centers. We've done some of that. We need to do more of that. Again, that's that safety net out there that provide a great service for our citizens. Support and expand home-supported care. Eighty percent of the people in nursing homes say they would rather be at home. If we can expand that home care,...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Time.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Senator.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Chambers, you are recognized to speak.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, because I know there's a tendency in this society to punish those least able to bear it for the sins of those who ought not commit them in the first place, every time I see a proposal such as this which is going to impact on the poor, I reread a terrible tract, or pamphlet, written by Jonathan Swift in 1729, called A Modest Proposal. And this is the subtitle: A Modest Proposal for preventing the children of poor people in Ireland, from being a burden to their parents or country, and for making them beneficial to the publick. And that proposal was to use them for food. And