

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

March 14, 2006 LB 1060

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kruse. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion with the motion to reconsider. Senator Howard.

SENATOR HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the body. Again, I rise to thank Senator Schimek for bringing forth this motion for reconsideration. I certainly support it. Without funding for a program, a program is meaningless. We can have all the good intent that we'd like to have. We can suggest all the answers to the problems that we can think of. But without making that possible, we're only just talking. I always regard Senator Kruse as a man of good, solid sense, and again he's proven that to me in saying that we really need to examine this carefully and look at this issue. We have an obligation as a body to use good judgment, not to operate on a political agenda. I hope you look at the issue, I hope you look at women's services as they are currently in effect, look at how they're working, look at who they're serving. If a study is required for additional information, I'd be interested in that. Again, if appropriations is the issue, I will be here next year, and I would be happy to request appropriations to address services for women and children. No doubt I will be doing that anyway on issues that I feel are critically important. I support the motion for reconsideration. I think there are far more questions than we have answers on this issue. We need to go carefully. I'd like to offer the remainder of my time to Senator Chambers, if he would want it.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, if you'd care to have Senator Howard's 3.5 minutes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Howard. Thank you, Mr. President. We are creatures of habit. Looking up there and seeing a familiar face just mellows me out. Members of the Legislature, a vote to reconsider simply means that we have the opportunity to retrace some steps that went down the wrong path, and come back to where we need to be. There will be other amendments that might generate a lot of discussion, but I'd venture to say they will be drafted in a way that comports with the way we deal with the appropriations process. As has been