

March 14, 1995 LB 31, 43, 95, 107, 115, 406A, 505, 533
585, 605, 613, 642, 646, 648, 658, 677
706, 707, 760, 766A, 825, 832, 833, 840
853
LR 4, 21, 76

CLERK: Madam President, your Committee on Revenue, Chaired by Senator Warner, reports LB 533, General File with amendments; LB 646, General File with amendments; LB 31, indefinitely postponed; LB 95, LB 107, LB 115, LB 585, LB 605, LB 648, LB 677, LB 706, LB 707, LB 760, LB 833, LB 853, indefinitely postponed. Health reports LB 825, General File with amendments; LB 832, indefinitely postponed. Those signed by Senator Wesely. (See pages 1102-04 of the Legislative Journal.)

Madam President, in addition to those items, new A bills. (Read LB 406A and LB 766A by title for the first time.) Senator Schmitt offers LR 76. (Read.) Senator Withem, amendments to be printed to LB 840; Senator Kristensen to LB 43. Priority designation, Senator Will, LB 505; Senator Witek, LB 613; Senator Avery, LB 642. Hearing notice from the Executive Board, and two resolutions enrolled this morning (re. LR 4 and LR 21) have been presented to the Secretary of State. That's all that I have, Madam President. (See pages 1104-09 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. We return to a discussion of LB 658, Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Well, let me reiterate again the background on this issue, some people have been asking about it. Our country, under the Medicaid program, covered all pregnant women and gave them cash assistance, ADC coverage, until the year 1982 when it was determined that the federal government would no longer match, until a woman was six months pregnant and would provide the cash payment for the last three months. Nebraska and one other state decided at that time that we liked the idea of providing cash assistance from the point of confirmation of pregnancy and continued on with the state paying for all of that cost. In 1992 we had a budget crunch, and on a three-year basis I believe it was agreed to stop that state payment and go to the state federal payment at six months pregnancy for the last three months of the pregnancy providing the cash assistance, and then that was to sunset this year. Senator Pirsch is attempting to not go back to a point where we have a cash payment from the point of confirmation of pregnancy. And I think again no other state, or maybe one other state does that. So the real question is, I think, for the Legislature is, do you want to have it start at the time the baby is born, or I understood there was going to be an amendment to do it at six months. But my comfort