

April 1, 1980

LB 789

start adding to that county impact.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose a move to bring LB 789 back. This was very carefully discussed earlier in the session. Whether one is renting property in which to house a family or whether one is in the process of purchasing property in which to house a family, there are additional costs when costs of living, costs of inflation are upon us, even in the State of Nebraska. Perhaps we do not feel the impact as rapidly as the east coast and the west coast, but we are feeling it now. We are feeling it in our state. Who do we hurt the most? We hurt the senior citizen or we hurt the preschool child or children where not from choice but of necessity we have a large number of one-parent households. We are in a good position in our state for the length of time the average family is on aid to families with dependent children. Most recently that has been less than two years of time, 1.9 years. We must meet the needs if we are going to help those persons soon get off, and the additional dollars which Senator Warner was talking about really do not accrue to a family unless someone has severe illness. If you are well and you are not having medical expenses, those dollars do not go into your pocket. Therefore, the total figures would not be as high as presented. From my way of figuring, if someone is paying my medical bills, that is not money in my pocket to be spent on the necessities of life if I am well. I urge you not to return 789.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Johnson and then Senator...Senator Johnson and then Senator Goodrich and then Senator Newell and then Senator Fowler. Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, inasmuch as you have just gone through a litany of those who wish to speak, I will try to keep my remarks relatively short. I know how time is important to us. Senator Warner in many respects has amused me in condemning the use of the Consumer Price Index in ascertaining how much ADC increases should be. Senator Warner indicates that the Consumer Price Index is a totally inaccurate or inexact measure to even begin to use with respect to welfare budget because the Consumer Price Index, as we well know, supposedly measures a market basket of items cost amount and ascertains what the average increases in those items are, and one of the things that are included in the market basket are entertainment. We would put that in the Consumer Price Index market basket.