

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Beutler, then Senator Haberman.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I would like to speak in support of the committee amendments and Senator Warner's proposition. I think you have to step back and remember that we are talking about things in a group again, not individual things, and that everybody has to make some sacrifices with regard to his or her interests.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler, may I interrupt you a minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: All right.

SPEAKER NICHOL: (Gavel.) Please let's hold it down with the combination of the various conversations going on. It makes it difficult. So please let's listen to the speakers. Thank you, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I would like to say at the onset that I have always supported higher ADC payments, even this year, and I have been supportive of this particular program. But at this time I think that this program needs to bear some portion or some burden of the cuts that need to be made if we do not want to increase taxes. I think it should be clear to everybody that taking this program away does not mean that pregnant mothers will not have aid to dependent children available to them. They will be available...welfare programs are available to people who cannot afford to feed and house themselves and they will continue to be available even if this amendment is adopted. This was a supplemental program. But under our regular program there should be enough money for each individual to adequately feed that individual, for that individual to obtain adequate nutrition for herself whether she is pregnant or not pregnant. That is still available to the individual. And I think we should remember that we...at this point in time about \$24 million is being paid out to these kinds of individuals and their children, which is fine. But I want you to know that it is a lot of money to begin with. I think you should also know that in the list of Appropriation Committee cuts, the list that was considered by the Appropriations Committee, there was also