

April 2, 1992

LB 78

addressing this. There's legislation that's been introduced and yet we haven't been able to see it passed, and I'm suggesting that we ought to take that step and others to try and head-off pregnancies and problems before they...

SENATOR WARNER: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...express themselves in the form of unwanted pregnancies. The other route we need to look at, again, is the question of how do we ease these burdens on people who would like to have a child but are scared and concerned and financially unable to face this step. We need to look at prenatal care, which we have yet to pass the raising to 185 percent of poverty prenatal care so that our young, poor women can have the opportunity to have prenatal care in their pregnancy. We need to look at parenting assistance. There are programs like the "Y" provides here in Lincoln that are excellent efforts to take out that challenge of being scared as a person facing the challenge of being a parent. How do you work with these people to meet that challenge? We have worked, Senator Chambers, Senator Ashford, to improve ADC benefits, improve job training, improve ways in which we can help these people. The child care challenge, we've passed some legislation, more needs to be done, but how do we meet the challenge of paying for and...

SENATOR WARNER: Time.

SENATOR WESELY: ...(inaudible) child care? And, finally, of course, the family leave issue, once you have that family. It would have been nice to have passed the family leave bill to deal with that. These are all steps that will help with bearing a child and caring for a child and I think these are steps that should be taken rather than the sort of steps LB 78 takes.

SENATOR WARNER: Next, Senator Ashford. Senator Ashford. Apparently, Senator Ashford's not here. Senator Lindsay.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I have to respond. I just had a little talk with Senator Bernard-Stevens away from the microphone because I have to respond a little bit just to the impression, I guess, that was left by his last floor speech. I've talked to him, apparently not his intent, but what I'd gathered from that was why are you, meaning my side or maybe me in particular, putting us through

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