

September 29, 1992 LB 20

have to be accountable in other programs as well. So, again, I think the message here is we have a universe of 500 individuals who are easily identified within the system. I think, hopefully, between now and January if this compromise that is being worked out is adopted, it will give us an opportunity to identify these 500 individuals, find out why they are in the system and to do what we can to encourage them to get off of welfare...

SENATOR MOORE: One minute, Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: ...thank you, Mr. President...to find jobs in the work force and to provide opportunities for them. Again, I would just in conclusion say that this, the compromise that is hopefully being worked out and will be proposed here soon to the body is very consistent with what the Appropriations Committee has done with the rest of the budget and the selective cuts that were made, that is not cutting out programs at a hundred percent, programs that have some validity, but we are looking to pare them down, to make them more accountable, to put the pressure where the pressure belongs on state agencies to make sure that these programs are working adequately. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR MOORE: Senator Chambers, do you wish to close on your reconsideration motion?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, I do. Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, it's difficult to find anything new to say on this subject, but really it's not necessary that anything new be said. Repetition is the order of the day on this bill. There are several forces at work here and there are several issues that are in contemplation while LB 20 is being discussed, not the least of which in the minds of some people is what's going to become of the rest of this session? And I think that's a valid consideration. I know, from what I've read in the papers and from talking to some of the senators, that there are people who still farm and they have activities at home that they must engage in so they cannot really stay here as long as I would be willing to stay here. So that kind of tilts the scale. But, on the other hand, there are others in here who feel that in addition to LB 20 there are some important bills that deal with far more money than what is contained in LB 20. And, thus far, those bills, even though they contain a tremendously greater amount of money, have not generated the controversy of LB 20.