

September 29, 1992 LB 20

So maybe the question is whether somebody is willing to sacrifice the big end for the small end. In my case, there is a principle involved and that principle is trying to minimize the damage done to a disadvantaged and helpless group. In the minds of others is the idea of cutting large amounts from the budget. If I had to make the choice and money were the only consideration, as it seems to be with those on the other side, then you certainly rather have a big pot of money go the way you want it to rather than sacrifice it for a small coin purse full of money. But if a principle is involved, as it is on my side, what happens to the big pot of money is of no consequence. What happens to these people who are going to be hurt by being deprived of what's in that coin purse is everything. So if all that happens in this session is to prevent the passage of LB 20, then the session will not have been a failure as far as I'm concerned, even if in the process these other bills happen not to pass. But there is no way to stop them from passing, we just have to stay here a little longer or a lot longer, as the case may be. And some of us are prepared to do that. I don't know if 33 are prepared to be here because that's what it would take to get a cloture vote. So you've got to always have at least that many people here and you've got to make sure that if you have only 33 that all of them agree with you on that point. So maybe you've got to have at least 35 because I will never vote for cloture, never. So you've got to have 35, then you start looking at the people who might feel that what they have to do at home is more important than staying here for a long period of time. Those are some of the factors tied up within this discussion that we're having here. And I do feel that time is on my side and the side of those who really need the help. If we had the numbers, this extended discussion would not be necessary. This bill, if introduced,...

SENATOR MOORE: One minute, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and if advanced from committee, would not have any chance of passage. But we don't have the numbers so we have to do other things to make the playing field level and the struggle fair. So what has been done thus far will have to continue to be done unless and until we can reach a point that there is some give and a modification in LB 20 occurs.

SENATOR MOORE: You have heard Senator Chambers' closing on the motion to reconsider the Crosby amendment. The question now is, shall the Crosby amendment be reconsidered? All those in favor