

ADC itself is just pathetically low. I think we're in the range on the cash payment of 38 percent, 36 percent, right around there. You have the food stamps. You have the energy, the health care, child care. I don't know how those all total up but let me...let me find that out. But I know in terms of ADC alone it's pathetically low.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, this once again shows the difficulty that we're going to have as we deal with this bill and some of these difficulties do not go to anybody trying to work a fast one, it's just that there is so much in this bill. There are so many issues being dealt with that I think many of them are being dealt with poorly. Never, in my opinion, should one bill be brought which tries to do everything that is desired to be done during a political year. What I mean by a political year, because I've used that terminology, is one where people must seek reelection to the office which they hold. I heard a "Repelican" say, as I was leaving this morning, and it wasn't being said to me but I overheard it and I was near enough so I don't think it was confidential, don't you just feel like standing up and saying this discussion is too conservative. I heard that this morning. I think some others may have heard a similar thing. In other words, the ones called conservatives get a free ride. The ones who are supposed to be the liberals are doing the dirty work for them. But what I demonstrate is that regardless of how amiable I may seem to get along with anybody, or how cordial my professional relationship here may be with anybody, my first obligation...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...is to do that which I think is right, and the right thing for me to do on this bill is to oppose the provisions of it, which the erstwhile liberals, if that's what they call themselves, would have opposed also. And I'm sure that if there were a "Repelican" governor, this bill, if it were brought at all, would have a different cast of supporters and I would have some additional help in resisting it, because my resistance is not new. What is new is that those who used to resist these things are now the ones pushing for them. I'm supporting Senator Crosby's amendment. I will support any other amendment which attempts to mitigate the harm that LB 1224, in its present form, will do to the poor and the needy.