

wonderful to do, is establishing a minimum salary for people and benefit package for people on welfare that is better, far better than what many people out there have that are working full time and often cases both parents are working full time and still not having this good of a benefit package. While I appreciate the effort to do that, I would hope that you would take a look at what we're offering in the next amendment in order to offer assistance to people up to 185 percent of the poverty level rather than making the whole package come together and providing an income of 185 percent of the poverty level. With that, I would urge you to consider opposing this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Rasmussen. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, we're doing some...some heavy strategizing around here. A part of the package of amendments that Senator Wesely and Senator Rasmussen have will deal with the matter of the A bill so I'm going to have to, instead of waiting until we finish 1224, I will have to begin dealing with that when we get to their package of amendments. But the fact remains that the thrust of 1224, the bill itself, is one which goes toward repression. I have told those who support the bill that I'm going to be repetitive this afternoon. There are things which need to be said over and over and over again. I will not read a book to you. I will not read a series of articles, but I'm going to continue to hammer away at the reasons I have for saying this is a bad bill. I began to talk...had begun to talk about this being a political year. Never, since I've been in the Legislature, has a bill of this kind been presented to the body, not by any of the "Repelicans," not by any of the demagogues, but here we are in a reelection year when the hue and cry from the national level to the smallest locale, where they can enact rules, regulations, ordinances or any other provision that impacts on the poor and the unfortunate, the hue and cry is to sock it to them. Bills have been enacted into law in the past when that attitude was abroad in the land. There are difficulties that we continue to suffer as a result of those bills. Some can be found in the realm of social welfare. Many of them are found in corrections, some in the judicial system. But whenever a popular slogan is coined at the national level and the tagalongs at the local level want somehow to share in what has been referred to as the reflected glory of what happens on the national level, they take it up with their smaller voice