

Punish Kids in Zeal to Reform System," and one of the paragraphs down on the first column says, "when the full Legislature takes up the welfare reform package a much bigger change needs to be made and take out the so-called child exclusion altogether and I think that's right. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Wesely. The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I see five hands. The issue is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, to cease debate.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Debate is ceased. Senator Dierks, do you wish to close on your amendment?

SENATOR DIERKS: Yes, I do, Madam President, only very briefly because I think some people may not have been here when we were talking about it. It has gone through very quickly. The amendment is one that strikes the family cap. It says that where the legislation currently calls for cessation of the \$21 payment, or \$71 payment that babies that receive who are born 10 months into the contract signed by the welfare mother, will strike that provision so that they will continue to receive those \$71 a month. Some of the people have said, well, it might encourage ladies to have babies. I can't see that, I just can't see how they would do that on \$71, it's not going to happen. I say that it might also induce ladies to stop their pregnancies early because if you don't have that extra \$71, why it might be less incentive to carry on the pregnancy. So I would urge that you support the amendment and strike that \$71 change in the bill and provide for striking the family cap. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Dierks. The question before the body is the adoption of the Dierks amendment to LB 1224. All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Please record.

CLERK: 11 ayes, 17 nays, Madam President, on the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Dierks amendment fails. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Madam President, the next amendment I have is by Senator