

they can be taking their GED. But if they're not doing either, if the minor child is not regularly pursuing a high school diploma, or a General Education Development Diploma, then when they turn 17 years of age they are required to fully participate in the program. That seemed to me to be a reasonable compromise and a reasonable clarification of the situation, and that's what I'm suggesting. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: I think I'll pass at this point.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Beutler, suppose there is a situation where this minor parent is living at home and say the child is born when the parent is 17 years old, and there are duties that the parents of the minor parent require that minor child to perform or she's out. Should she choose between what her parents would say she must do to stay there, if there's a conflict, and lose the assistance, or keep the assistance and move out? And I'm not trying to create a dilemma for you, just to ask a question that's difficult to answer.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Um-hum.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But that's the thing that came to my mind immediately, because I'm familiar with some of these kinds of situations.

SENATOR BEUTLER: It's possible that there may occasionally be dilemmas like that, Senator Chambers, and choices would have to be made, sometimes hard choices. But it seems to me that if we're going to maintain the credibility of the program that a child of 17 years is a pretty big child, and certainly one old enough to take on, if they're old enough to take on the responsibilities of being a parent, are certainly old enough to take on the responsibility of beginning to live their life like an adult. And I don't...at least for myself I don't see why they should not have the obligation to fully participate during their 17th and 18th year. But you're right, there could be circumstances that are more difficult than others.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Members of the Legislature, I had said, and I really mean it, once people get a