

or you're out of here. And maybe that's a choice that you don't think is bad to confront them with,...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...but I do, so I will have to oppose your amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Beutler, there are no further lights. Would you like to close on your amendment?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, the choice, I think, is fairly clear. With regard to minor parents you can adopt this amendment, and if you do when they're age 17 then they must participate. They must be responsible, they must either continue their high school education, or pursue their GED, or fully participate at age 17. If you do not adopt this amendment then 17 and 18-year-old mothers will have the option of not going to high school, not pursuing their GED, and in fact not participating in any way in the required assistance programs. I don't think that it irrespon...I don't think that it's...I don't think it's irresponsible or asking too much in any way to say to parents of that age that at age 17 and 18 you need to participate in this program that we've set up in order to get you off the welfare system eventually. And so that's really all that this amendment is about, and I think it's one more small step that we can take to make the whole welfare reform acceptable to society generally and to enhance the credibility of this particular welfare reform, because it is going to ask for more responsibility from 17 and 18-year-olds. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. The question before the body is the adoption of the Beutler amendment to LB 1224. All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay. Senator. Yes, Senator. There's been a request for a call of the house. All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay. Please record. Please record.

CLERK: 16 ayes, 0 nays to go under call, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The house is under call. Will all senators please return to their seats. Will all unauthorized personnel please leave the floor and will senators check in. Senators