

this, additional funding for that? I'm in support of that, but are you going to do so and turn your back on the individuals such as this young woman who is trying to access services in Senator Moore's district that can't have any because we refuse to provide additional dollars? We're in a crucial situation out there and I'll tell you honestly, that our funding methodology in the State of Nebraska through the Department of Institutions has been in a shambles this year. We have seen a mythology that has been projected three, four times to the people providing services in this state and they don't know what they have for dollars. The one thing they do know is they have less to do more with. We're at the point where they're going to have to reduce services...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR BYARS: ...even on level funding. Please, when you look at your priorities, please look at restoring this \$187,000. It's a very small statement on your behalf to say that you care about people that can't talk to you as legibly, that can't tell you about their problems, many of them that are nonverbal. They can't talk to you about their problems and they can't write you letters. Think of these people and think about what they need. I ask you to support the Wesely amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Byars. Before I proceed to the next speaker I would like to introduce some guests of the Legislature. They are guests of Senator Fisher. We have 21 fourth graders from Shoemaker Elementary in Grand Island and their teacher and they are in the south balcony. Would you folks please stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. Thank you for being here. Senator Elmer, would you like a point of personal privilege?

SENATOR ELMER: Yes, I would, thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the information of the body, I would like to announce that Donna and I, my son, Lewis and his wife, Lavenda, and Bill have a brand new...Bill has a brand new baby sister, born last night about, six-thirty, in the hospital at Kearney. Her name is Felicia Rae Elmer. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Elmer. Congratulations. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm assuming,