

a lot to strengthen this bill. Thank you.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Schimek, your light is next. She waives off. Senator Wesely. Senator Wesely, on the Crosby amendment.

SENATOR WESELY: Yeah. Mr. President, members, we did discuss this concept with Senator Chambers and Senator Crosby to a degree. And you know it's a very appealing proposal. At the same time we felt like the commitment here would make it actually too costly perhaps and too lucrative in terms of a benefit. We have an alternative which will be proposed in the amendment that will be coming up next, which talks about the cash in the job that you would take, have to take after two years would have to be at least equal to the ADC payment you got, so that there would be a floor to encourage folks to take a job, but realize that some jobs out there just are going to be worse than better for them. So that is a reasonable approach. And in addition our amendment, actually I wish we were on our amendment, but the other part of the amendment will take health care up to 185 percent of poverty, as we already have child care up to 185 percent of poverty. So, in a sense the goal of what Senator Crosby is trying to get at is accomplished to a degree with less fiscal impact, through what Senator Rasmussen and Senator Bohlke and I are going to offer here following this amendment. So, although I like the concept of what Senator Crosby is saying, I think it would be wonderful if we could say everybody could get at least that kind of benefit. We don't do it for the private sector, for the working folk out there now who are struggling through trying to get by on a minimum wage job, maybe no health care benefits. And in fact this benefit will probably attract people to the welfare system and not, in fact, get people off of welfare. It will probably be a magnet. At least that's my interpretation at this point. So I don't want to come down with a heavy hammer here, but just to say I don't think that this is the way to go. I think Senator Rasmussen, Senator Bohlke and I will have a better way to go, but I understand Senator Crosby's interest and appreciate her desire to again provide enhancements here. But this amendment is not one that I would support. I'd ask your opposition to the Crosby amendment.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Rasmussen, your light is next on the Crosby amendment.