

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** For debate on the Wesely amendment, AM4481, the Chair recognizes Senator Moore, followed by Senators Wesely and Rasmussen.

**SENATOR MOORE:** Yes, Mr. Speaker and members, as mentioned in the opening by both Senators Wesely and Senator Rasmussen, this amendment contains the appropriation language that would...normally we put in the A bill but, for a variety of reasons, we're putting it in the body of the bill. I think it's important for those that want to follow along, in your bill books you have a fiscal note from Friday, last Friday, and the numbers are slightly different than that. It's my understanding, instead of the million eighty-four thousand in General Funds it would be nine hundred and eighty-four thousand is the actual number that's going to go in the actual A bill itself, just for the record. I wanted to point that out. The whole issue of this bill and its cost is something that's always...it's been somewhat of a search for the Holy Grail in some ways because, obviously, it's throwing darts at a gart board. We don't know where they're going to go and it's unfortunate, it's not even as good as an educated guess. We all understand that. As I have stated, I think I do have some concern though over trying to get a handle on the cost of it, and one of the things I would like to have a dialogue with Senator Rasmussen if she would yield, please.

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** Senator Rasmussen.

**SENATOR RASMUSSEN:** Yes.

**SENATOR MOORE:** Senator Rasmussen, it's one component in the bill and I know it's...there's a lot of component parts of the bill but one thing in the bill that assumes a funding level for child care, and I know that the present utilization for child...these are families that qualify for ADC that have a working parent. The present utilization rate for child care of those families is roughly 36 percent. It's my understanding that, in the bill itself, they're using a rate of between 40 and 45 percent. I guess my question is, if, indeed, the bill works like it's supposed to and make...and encourages more ADC parents to be in the work force and to be working, is that number of 40 to 45 percent reasonable? I guess I...I have some concern that that may be a little too low. If the bill works like it's supposed to that logically if more women are working in the work