

bring the economic problems into the family structure the frustrations are there, you end up getting a tremendous opportunity, unfortunately, for abuse to occur, and it does occur, again, and again, and again. And again, it's a statewide problem. And in the western part of the state, in the rural areas we don't even have people that could go into the counties to document that even help out. The best we can do is an 800 crisis line number, and we hope that if they get to North Platte, or the other family can get somewhere else where there's a center that we might be able to help them. It's very difficult to get out there because we don't have the funding, and they don't have the personnel. We've got to find ways of doing so, I believe this is a reasonable form of getting money on the marriage license. I think it is as doable in Nebraska as it has been in other states. But in this particular time I will simply say that I will be introducing the bill next year, it will be done the first part of the year, and hopefully the Health Committee will see fit to shoot it out again and will be able to do battle on its own terms and not at this particular point in 1224. And I respectfully, though I appreciate the comments, withdraw the amendment at this time.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Will would move to amend the bill. (Will amendment, AM4203, appears on pages 1879-80 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Will, to open on his amendment.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. The amendment that I'm offering at this time is AM4203, it's been distributed to you. And I'll explain it here, and I hope to have some discussion on this, although I don't want to take a whole lot of the body's time. This amendment stems from a situation that arose during another period of welfare reform, that being in the early eighties. In 1982, legislation was passed that provided that the state took over all of the welfare programs in the state. Previous to that, counties had had the majority of welfare programs and administered them: Medicaid, ADC, food stamps, all the ones that you're familiar with. At that time the decision was made by the Legislature to implement legislation that shifted the entire functioning of those programs to the state level, to the Department of Social Services. It had a delayed implementation date, and in 1983 the