

of the time about its sensitivity, its compassion, its caring. This is a bill that I will not support. It would be naive for me to expect that anybody other than Senator Crosby will join me. But, Senator Crosby, I can't think of anybody that I would rather go down to a flaming defeat with than you because at least I know that while we are going down we are sharing a common faith and you won't stick something in my back on the way down...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...as...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Jones.

SENATOR JONES: Madam Chairman and members of this body, I just wanted to ask Senator Wesely a couple of questions here. The way the bill is wrote up now or the way the amendments read, is there any expense to the local counties, and I am thinking about the caseworkers, too, when I am saying that, could I have that for the record? Maybe you could comment on that.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Senator Jones. Yes, I understand currently in the system there is something like between 220 and 260 caseworkers, and that because they have other responsibilities, it is hard to pinpoint that exactly, but in the range let's say at 240, give or take a few, caseworkers, we think something like 35 will be added in Omaha, the first phase of this program, another 35 in the rest of the state, so total about 70 new caseworkers on the base of about 270, and, obviously, the counties now provide, for the most part provide offices for welfare offices, social service offices, so there would be the impact of accommodating the additional workers would be one impact.

SENATOR JONES: Yeah, that is the point I wanted to bring up. In Broken Bow, where they have got the building filled with workers, and they rented another space, and I just was wondering if they will have to rent a little bit more space for another person. But if you say there is going to be only 70 total, two 35s, well, the counties might not have hardly any then. So thank you for that comment.