

middle class, I thought I would concentrate on workfare for the underprivileged entirely. Senator Wesely has had prepared by Gina Dunning a memorandum on the rules and regulations in Douglas County for the receipt of general assistance. I have a copy of the memorandum. I do not have any knowledge as to whether or not the memorandum has been passed out to you, but I can assure you that Douglas County has set up so many barriers for the provision of any kind of assistance to needy people, that to qualify, one has to be in abject poverty and for this body to yield to Douglas County in putting up yet one more barrier to qualification is not only unconscionable, but frankly, in biblical phrases, immoral. I am reminded of the prophet Amos who said, let justice flow on the rich and on the poor; let it flow like an everflowing stream, and when I see what Douglas County has done with its own lobbyist at \$42,700 a year for a full-time position plus retirement, plus health and accident while permitting its own lobbyist to also lobby for the liquor dealers, the lodging people, to be the head of the NDIGC and on and on and on, I say it becomes immoral for Douglas County to now take the least able, the most defenseless and to put up one more barrier to the receipt of \$225 a month. I hope you kill this pernicious bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Wesely, followed by Senator Ashford.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members, as a co-sponsor of the kill motion, I would echo Senator Johnson's remarks. I think the best thing we can do is kill this piece of legislation as soon as possible. There is a number of reasons for that. We did recognize in Senator Ashford's amendment that we need to deal with the question of people on welfare and how we take them off of the cycle and into our society, and one of the ways we do that is we give them the skills and the ability to move off of welfare and into the workforce, and we do that in part through the Ashford amendment to Senator Johnson's ADC bill by giving them a transition assistance through child care or medical care, and we recognize that this way we're going to have some permanent effects on the long term problem of welfare in our society. The approach here is a completely different concept. It says, you are on county general assistance, you've fallen through the cracks, nobody else will take care of you, you're impoverished. Okay, we've got to put up with you, we're going to take you in, but we're sure going to make you pay for it. We're going to make you do janitorial service and we're