

and Facts", and you will see that in Nebraska, we can't talk about national statistics, you've got to look at Nebraska and at your own district, there are not too many welfare queens. There are people who abuse the system, of course, there are always people who will abuse every system, but as a whole this is a group of women who are trying to take care of their families, trying to get their education and trying to get out of the system and you can't do that on a \$4.25 an hour job. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time, thank you, Senator. Senator Wehrbein wishes to announce that the following guests are visiting the Legislature. We have 54 K-sixth graders here from Stull School in Plattsmouth and their principal and sponsors. Will you all stand and be recognized, please. Thank you. The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, members of the Legislature, this is a very lengthy bill, it is complex in its subject matter and additional complexity is added by virtue of the addition of the committee amendments. Unfortunately for me, I'm in a position where I...(cough, gasp, in a whisper) I don't think I can go on, but yes I can. I just wanted to give you all something to be happy about before I became what you know me to be on bills of this kind. I agree to a great extent with what Senator Crosby has said. This debate before it ends I'm sure is going to be wrenching, tearing and divisive because we have people who take very radically, differing views on issues that pertain to the welfare of women and children, two groups who traditionally have been victimized throughout society. When they wanted to kill women, they branded them witches then wrote in the Bible, though shalt not suffer a witch to live. If you practiced witchcraft, you could be burned at the stake. If you said you did not believe in witchcraft, you could be burned at the stake as a heretic because the Bible spoke of witches so they could get women every kind of way. Children have been tortured, brutalized, sold for people's sexual enjoyment and titillation. They have been tortured because people are resentful toward the children themselves or resentful towards some adult against whom they cannot take action, so what I see this bill doing as so many so-called welfare reform efforts is to wage a war against women and children and not launch an attack against poverty and welfare dependency. I agree with Senator Crosby also that that hand-picked commission that the Governor put together was designed to give him what he wanted. The people may have worked very hard, but they really didn't