

SENATOR JOHNSON: No, there is not.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Now as I understand from some discussion that there has been a reluctance on the part of experts in the Department of Public Welfare to assist in this area.

SENATOR JOHNSON: That is right.

SPEAKER MARVEL: So if we vote \$50,000 or \$100,000, under the present circumstances you probably won't get much cooperation from them so I am trying to find out where will this cooperation come from and I am not trying to cast any reflections on you but where will the expertise come from and how can we have a balance so it doesn't all tilt one way?

SENATOR JOHNSON: Well to be honest with you, Senator Marvel, ...

SPEAKER MARVEL: That is a loaded question I realize.

SENATOR JOHNSON: I frankly think that the balance at this juncture tilts away from needy people and that tilting is a tilt done by the Nebraska Department of Public Welfare. I think the only reticence the Department of Public Welfare has had about conducting this study is that it has imagined this project to be far more gargantuan than it truly is. I think that once the Nebraska Department of Public Welfare faces the reality of this kind of legislation they will see that the project can be done relatively simply without a lot of work on their part.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Can you spell out once more two or three categories of experts who would get involved in this?

SENATOR JOHNSON: Well the experts that I would rely upon would be, since we are really talking in this bill as to what people need for basic subsistence in this state, that would be families and adults, older people, disabled persons and the like, the kind of expertise that we would want to draw upon, in my opinion, would be (a) statisticians and we have those in the Nebraska Department of Public Welfare and (b) people who are familiar with family budgets and home economists are a classic instance of those kinds of persons and we have those of the University of Nebraska so we have all the expertise we need, Senator Marvel.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Is your bill set up so the Legislature has some control over the personnel who are involved?