

SENATOR JOHNSON: Yes, I probably can't give you much of a promise, Senator Vickers, mostly because I too want to wait for the facts to come in. When the facts are in then I can see exactly how I will proceed but let me tell you a couple of things. Number one, it now the standard of need in the Welfare's aged, blind and disabled program is significantly higher than the standard of need in the Welfare Department's A.D.C. program. Secondly, I don't know if you read the handout that I gave to you a couple of days ago, my dear colleague letter, did you notice in there the type of disincentive that presently exists for A.D.C. people to work? Truly under present structures, A.D.C. people right now are in a 65% tax bracket. If they go to work some 65% of their wages will be lost in diminution of public assistance benefits, so why work. So my real answer is this. If we get a study which shows that the standards of need of the A.D.C. program and in the A.B.D. programs need to be increased, I will take a hard look at it, see how that will affect the working poor and it is my true belief that we need to find jobs and encourage people to get those jobs and to stay on those jobs and I will work along those lines.

SENATOR VICKERS: Thank you, Senator Johnson. I am going to oppose the kill motion because I too feel that way. There is one point I would like to make. The book that you passed out, I noticed that and I notice Senator Chambers is not here but I would like to point out that several times Douglas County and the City of Omaha is brought forth as being the poor section of the State of Nebraska. I happen to live in Frontier County and according to your own figures the percentage of poor people, there is an awful lot of us out there. I guess that is no surprise to me but it might be a surprise to some of my colleagues here from the Omaha area.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise this morning to oppose the kill motion of Senator Haberman and I think Senator Lamb probably touched on the subject matter that I personally am concerned about and while I recognize that this particular area is a substantial part of our general budgetary program, it is only one and for some time I have been concerned about us operating here on the floor of this Legislature with assumptions as opposed to facts. I have strived by direction of resolution for two or three years now to get this Legislature to conduct an in depth study of our tax structure and revenue