

Blue Cross-Blue Shield had assured, as at least I read in the paper, had assured the Governor they had no intention of doing it, but there is a longer term issue here, and the longer term issue, of course, is what occurs two years from now. Do we add 35,000 into the budget for this year for additional consultant to assist with planning for changes that may occur next year? I know there is a cooperative effort between the negotiating, bargaining groups, not negotiations but discussions, personnel, administration. There is a variety of people looking at it and, then, if we go ahead with someone to review the current estimates by Blue Cross-Blue Shield on their loss experience, we proceed with that, we are assured that that review can be done in less than a week.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR WARNER: And we will know tomorrow, you know, what kind of a cost that might be. At this point, I just don't know. I do know that it will be a few days, an hourly rate, but we don't know the rate yet.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The Chair is pleased to note that Senator Hannibal has some very special guests in our north balcony, 42 fourth graders from George Catlin Elementary in Omaha with their instructor. Would you folks please stand and be recognized? Thank you. We are glad you could be with us. Senator Smith, a question on the budget?

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sorry but I would like to continue on my questions I had. I was following along as well as I could and I had some questions that arose as a result. I would like to make one more statement before I move on from the Department of Public Institutions, and the reason I was asking that question is I keep trying to draw the attention of the body to the fact that we closed the detox unit about three years ago in Hastings. I can't remember the amount that was saved but it was somewhere around \$100,000, if I remember correctly, and I am interested to see what is going to happen now because I tried to say at that time we are going to end up spending much, much more money to put that system back in place because we are all experiencing a great need for that out in central and western Nebraska. Moving on then, though, I would like to, in the Department of Labor, I would like to address just for a second something that Senator Hannibal brought out to us which was the fact that they eliminated the Farm Labor