

their children are under even more risk. Far too often in the State of Nebraska and in the United States as a whole we look at these problems, we can't afford this. But when you look at what the state is paying to keep those people out of jail or the welfare system, what we're paying, as they say, on the welfare system, not only through their lifetime, but their children's and their children beyond that, we breed a group of people who live on welfare. We're trying to say with this amendment is let's look at both ends of this argument. If we're going to go with parental notification, I suspect with 29 signatures that's exactly what we'll do. If the logical assumption of that is abortions will decline, if the amount of pregnancies that will grow to full term increase, we must also look at the results of that. And we must also say to ourselves what can we do to give them the best chance to survive in our society. And the best chance they have, and you know it, is education. We're saying we're going to give you a chance, boys and girls, actually men and women, we're going to give you a chance. The State of Nebraska is going to give you a way so that you can have day care for your child and you can get the high school diploma. And that, in essence, is what the amendment will do. It is not a cost to the schools, the State of Nebraska would be paying the cost. The only thing the schools will have to do is work with the Department of Social Services in order to find the best place for the child and the funding that would be necessary. In looking into this amendment, I've become more and more depressed at the deplorable situation we have in our state. An example, one of the statistics I have is that many of these females, for example, could apply for ADC. And I come to find out about 1,200 people can apply for ADC in the State of Nebraska for day care, for high school, but only about 165 or so actually get it, and the reason they only get...only 165 or so get it is simply because we have such a difficult time finding licensed day care that will take the amount of money that will be paid by our system to them. We ask them to take a lower amount, many of them will not accept a child for that amount. Sometimes there is no day care available anywhere. You have figures passed out to you that show the number of students that we have that are dropping out, particularly and exclusively because of pregnancies. In 1983, 1984, 139 females, now this is a bottom line figure, this is the minimum. These are what superintendents were able to put in their reports. These people dropped out because of pregnancies. The other people, the other dropouts that same year, female, were 1,621, many of them were because of pregnancies, but they were not put in the report. In