

in Lincoln, who is in the Lincoln Public Schools, and who has done everything she can to stay in school, because she thought it was important for her to do so. And she talked with her school counselor, worked out a plan to attend school half days, three days every week. She takes the city bus to the downtown Y to leave her child, takes the city bus to school, goes back to get her child, and she has great obstacles in her path to doing this. But she is very committed and the school system has worked with her to try to work things out. When she receives her high school diploma, she wants to go to the university and become a teacher. She says, I'll probably get my diploma before I get my driver's license. We walk everywhere. I've gone through six strollers since Elizabeth's been around. Think about the logistical problems that a teenage parent has. If we can take some of that burden off of that teenage parent, by making sure that child care is available, we will have gone a long ways to encouraging these students to stay in school. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, and accept my apology, please, for trying to shut you off too early. Senator Nelson, please.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I, too support this amendment. As I mentioned before, this is a real problem. Our girls need to be educated. Senator Smith said at 13, 14-years old, I'll have to admit I was, I knew nothing, practically nothing. And a girl finds herself in that situation, she's scared, we are...and we need to help her with her education. We need to help her in all cases. They are smart girls, they are good girls in many, many cases simply ignorance at the time, too immature, and we need to do our best to bring them out of the welfare stage and to help train them. And I know this has been talked, I heard people at home say, oh, now what next in our school. The problem will not go away by not facing it, neither will teenage pregnancies. So let's do the best that we can help the girls, let's get the advice. And, with that, I support the amendment, and I'll give Senator Ashford the rest of my time.

PRESIDENT: Senator Ashford, please.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you. Mr. President, am I next on the list anyway?

PRESIDENT: Senator Schimek is next, and then you're next.