

problems with it, but there are enough loopholes I could be with a little persuasion, they'd be right on board with this amendment, because this amendment does something for the people of our future, our children and their children. This amendment is staring the issue right smack in the face. And this amendment is saying to the Legislature, okay, adults, let's quit playing games here, let's quit talking about just one little segment of it, let's look at the whole picture. If you've got the courage, then let's have the courage. If you want to make up excuses, fine, but let's at least have the picture. And the picture needs to be with the end result, teen pregnancy as well. Senator Schellpeper asked that I talk briefly about the cost of the bill. I've been working very diligently with Senator Schimek, in fact we both have been working diligently to try to find an actual cost. And you know the sad thing is we don't know. I can give you a ballpark figure, and I will, but we don't know because we don't even know how many people have dropped out of school because of pregnancy. We know that we have 1,600 or so a year, females, drop out, many of which we know are pregnancy oriented, but we don't know for sure. So we can only give our best guesstimate. And we have, for the sake of the body, and I say this for the Appropriations Committee, for the sake of the body guesstimated high so that we're not caught short, so we know what the maximum could be. This bill will be anywhere from 3 to 5, excuse me, 3 to 6 million dollars, and that is based on 2,500 guesstimated children, 2,500 guesstimated children of teen pregnancies. We are looking at some people that have more than one child, the 2,500 teen pregnancies and you take them at what a minimum might be of what they could get for day care, in some areas it would have to be a little higher than that, and you're going to have to take a guesstimate of what you think on the average is going to be paid for day care throughout the State of Nebraska, and you come up with a figure. That figure could be anywhere from 3 to 6 million dollars. And you're right, people, that is a lot of money. But we, in this body, have had the courage to put 8 million, and I will vote for it, too, \$8 million for research at the University of Nebraska, and it is good.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: And we'll be voting for over \$240 million for the University of Nebraska, and it is good. And we're going to be voting for over a billion dollars of state programs, and it is good. But there is something that is really