

They can't call back in the morning when we have time. These workers, at least in the Kearney area, are suffering a tremendous morale problem. Part of it is due to their local office administrator, but part of it is our problem, that there is just not enough workers. Senator Wesely, could you answer me just a couple questions and maybe I'm more concerned about our placement in workers.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you. Your staff has shown me where some of the workers have gone in the past and I believe one of them went to Hastings, one of them went to Grand Island. Columbus strikes me as another place. Are these geared and done on numbers of caseloads as well as the amount of travel involved? So if we're going to reallocate, where are these workers going to go?

SENATOR WESELY: I'll go ahead and respond. Senator Kristensen, I know there have been concerns about where the last increase went to in placements and how that was done and at this point we're not completely sure how that decision was made, but evidently was made on caseloads and hopefully on travel, as you made that point. That needs to be considered. My guess is that we need to sit down with the department and understand better how it is they plan to disperse these people because there have been some concerns about the last effort.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Would you give me some assurance that we would look towards taking into consideration the amount...

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...of miles that have to be traveled and the rural area needs and those things?

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR WESELY: Can I answer that?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I think that's a good one to answer.

PRESIDENT: Quickly.

SENATOR WESELY: I, absolutely, as a matter of fact, would look