

SENATOR WESELY: Am I going to close or...?

PRESIDENT: No, there is one other speaker beside you.

SENATOR WESELY: I'll wait till close.

PRESIDENT: All right. Senator Hartnett, please, on the advancement of the bill.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, members of the body, I think I listened, if I can ask Senator Kristensen some questions. I listened with some interest to your comments about, you know, driving from Minden to Kearney to pick up a car and then back and so forth. Even if we pass this, will that change, I guess? Will they have to go from, if a worker is in Minden, they'll have to go to Kearney to check in, you know, we've got to punch the time clock, I guess what I heard when you were talking, a lack of trust on, you know, people being an agent unto themselves, you know, if they're going to go from Minden south some place, they don't have to go north. I think Minden is south of Kearney and vice versa, what, if we do add additional workers, will that help the situation? Because I listened to your scenario, I saw just lots of miles driving back and forth without getting to serving people or children, and I guess that is...I have some concern as I listened to your story, I guess, so maybe you want to respond to that.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Sure.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Or maybe Senator Wesely or somebody.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, if Senator Wesely would like to respond, I'm sure he will in his closing. I don't think the needs are going to go away in Franklin and Minden and someone is still going to have to travel from the Kearney office under our present system out to those places. That was just a part of what the problem is and it is a conglomerate problem, is that if this worker spends all of her time driving to and from, those are times that she's not able to do other work. She's not able to prepare maybe her court load, reports that she has to report to the court, the guardian ad litem, the attorney for the parents and so on. If we've got her running on so many cases, she is going everywhere. If we could limit the number of places that she goes, she's still going to have to be on the road or he's still going to have to be on the road. Given all the