

programs to help people, and one thing that I hear constantly within my district is, can we find a way to help people learn how to work? Is there a means at our disposal that we can use to do this? And I feel this enabling legislation is exactly that and I would support that.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Senator Byars. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam Chair and members of the Legislature, if there were a lady in my district who needed a job and could have the telephone company create a position and give it to her, she'd probably be one of those who would say, there is dignity found in any kind of job because she doesn't have to do it. Now when it's been made clear that these gangs, when they mark their territory will threaten people who take the graffiti off, how is there dignity in sending a woman out to do that and grown men don't want to do it? That is as crazy as anything as I've heard, the insensitivity of it all. And these are the kinds of things that would happen in the City of Omaha and you all can do it if you want to and ignore the reality, but just this morning the World-Herald published a part of a report given by a firm from Reston, Virginia, commissioned to do the report, that talked about the racism that exists in Omaha and unless they correct their racial problems, they are never going to be an appealing place for businesses to come. 70 percent of the 11 to 12,000 people unemployed in Omaha are racial and ethnic minorities whom the system has failed in the words of the one who did the report and delivered it. And you have people sitting down here pontificating about dignity in any kind of work, work which they themselves don't have to do which they wouldn't want for their children. And Senator Pirsch did not tell you all of the factors that go into determining whether somebody is going to be forced into this. If you look at page 4, any person who is a single parent and has legal custody of any child under six shall not be required to perform community service which means any woman or man who has a child six-years-old or older can be taken out of the home for as much as 40 hours a week, 8 hours a day to do this kind of work which Senator Pirsch says has so much dignity and for which she will not be compensated. Let me ask Senator Abboud a question because maybe I'm getting the cart before the horse. Senator Abboud, what is the minimum per hour that these people can be paid for this work that they will be required to do?

SENATOR ABOUD: Senator Chambers, I think you have a