

the cracks and have needs and there the county is supposed to pick up the need, but they don't have the authority to do the sort of job training, job support things that they would like to do. Now their attitude was the community service option. They really liked that way to go, but that's not what the state does and it doesn't work as well as what the state has, so this amendment would allow the county to work with the state programs, the state system that's there, to take their people and put them through that system, give them the training and the skills and move them off of the general assistance program and we found 90 percent success in this state program that we have in place, so why throw out a successful program and not utilize it by the counties when the state has found so much value in it? It helps I think the county problem. It deals with it in a positive fashion. I think it's the way to go. I hope you will support the amendment and I appreciate again Senator Abboud's willingness to cooperate on this matter and I'd give the rest of my time to Senator Abboud.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Madam President, members, I also support this particular amendment. I think if we do have any problems with it, let's get the amendment attached and any technical differences that we have at that time on Select File can be addressed at that particular time. As I stated previously, I felt... I supported this particular approach and I think that the state system has been working very well and the counties would like to mirror it and I think they'd love to get involved with it, but we have to pass this enabling legislation for them to do it. Senator Wesely's amendment offers some safeguards that I feel are good and, as I said, if there is some technical problems down the road, we can address them at that time, but I think it, hopefully, it will address some of Senator Bernard-Stevens and Senator Withem's concerns in regards to it, so I would move the advancement of the amendment and the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Senator Abboud. Senator Wesely, there are no further lights on, would you like to close on the amendment?

SENATOR WESELY: All I would add is I'd also agree with Senator Abboud, if there is any technical problems we'd be willing to work together on that, but I think it's appropriate now to amend