

and is clearly the idea behind this program, this 30-day...or two-week grant program. I, like many of you, have problems in simply increasing the grant from year to year, ADC grant, without some sort of incentive built into that grant to make sure that we are doing some good in bringing these individuals off the system and breaking the cycle, welfare cycle, which is really an onerous thing for many, many women, certainly in my district, and in Douglas County. And I know that this cycle, welfare cycle or cycle of poverty exists across the state, and I think when we can adopt these kinds of programs that have some cost involved, but the effect being as great as it is and the result being getting people off of the welfare system, I think that we are spending our money wisely. We are leveraging our money in a very effective way because these individuals become, obviously, taxpayers. They educate themselves and they become taxpayers and are in the labor force in a real way. So this is, as I say, the one little gap that was left in the 518 program. I encourage the body to adopt this, the committee amendments, and then to advance LB 536. Thank you.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Warner and followed by Senator Crosby.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Ashford may have even mentioned it, I am not sure if he did, but I just wanted to make one other clear that the cost for this particular proposal is included in LB 1031, as it stands, with the numbers that, you look on the green sheet, this does not add to the authorized amount above what was advanced just a few minutes ago, but there was a need for the legislation to permit this level of funding, and so that the body is aware of that. There are some other bills later on which the funding are like any other A bill. They are in competition for what available money, but this one is included in LB 1031.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Crosby, to discuss the committee amendments.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. President, and members. I just wanted to second what Senator Ashford said because yesterday here in Lincoln we had the same kind of lunch and meeting with some of the ADC mothers that they have in Omaha. And those senators that were there, I know, had a good interaction with the women that came and learned a lot about the kind of daily struggle it is to survive. So I stand in support of this