

going to put the funds behind this. You know I'm amazed Senator Labeledz and other people this morning voted without blinkin; to spend \$30 million from the General Fund, \$30 million from the General Fund. We're looking at a possibility of 45,000 to 81,000 dollars. And all we're saying is the reason they're nebulous is cause we don't really know what the cost is. And at this point I really think, if we in Nebraska are saying we're going to mandate this be done, that we do the proper thing, as many have argued in the Commonwealth we need to do, we need to do the proper thing, we have enough courage to say we're willing to back it with funds. And if it's not important enough to back with funds from the state level, then I question the motives of what we're really doing here. I would think for the most part that if we're saying this is very important, in fact our morality is on the line, our positions are on the line, this is so important. Oh, by the way, it may cost too much, we're going to make the counties go ahead and pay it to whatever mill levy and property tax they have, cause we're certainly not going to pay for it, we have other priorities, I think that says something, too. So that's the reason for the nebulosness of the numbers. And, Senator Crosby, I would hope that after discussion you might be able to even punch a green by the time...before it's all over.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Labeledz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, I'm sorry. I also rise again to oppose the amendment by Senator Bernard-Stevens. And, Senator Bernard-Stevens, the amendment that you're proposing, the right to counsel, appointment and payment of guardian ad litem is already in the statutes under the juvenile code. And let me read it for you. It says, the court shall inform such juvenile and his or her parent or guardian of such juvenile rights to counsel at county expense, if none of them is able to afford counsel. So it is already in the juvenile code that the county will pay the expense for a parent or guardian of such juveniles' right to counsel, at county expense. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Labeledz. Is there anyone else wishing to discuss the amendment? Senator Bernard-Stevens, yours is the only light on. Do you wish to use this as your closing also? Okay.