

else who wishes to speak to the committee amendments? Do you have closing, Senator Wesely? We will proceed to vote on the motion to adopt the committee amendments. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Wesely, would you like to open on the bill itself?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, thank you. Madam President and members of the Legislature, LB 836, and I want to thank Speaker Baack for special ordering the bill. It is a committee priority bill and it does need to be passed. In fact, there's an E clause to the bill and we will ask that it be expedited because we have seen a change since last year dramatically in child care status in Nebraska and in the nation. As you recall, as I said, this bill was very much LB 678 from last year but it does not have a couple of elements. First off, one of the major costs of last year's bill dealt with the Title XX rates. As you recall, Title XX provides child care services for a large number of families in this state of women on ADC and low income women who are qualified for that program and they were being subsidized just a few years ago at about 60 percent of the market rate, were unable to get child care. We raised it to 80 percent and then finally fully to market rate last year. This was a major state expenditure and was accomplished after the bill was vetoed by the Department of Social Services taking the action on their own. And so that cost item is out of last year's bill and the additional cost items of last year's bill, which were not that great, are all going to be provided for through federal funding that has now been made possible through the passage of federal legislation last fall. The federal government did pass, the Congress passed and was signed by the President, legislation dealing with OBRA, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of last year which set up a couple of new child care funding mechanisms that will total in funds available in Nebraska, 4.5 million in a block grant in '91; over 5 million in '92 and almost 6 million in '93. In addition there is a job child care block grant that will provide almost \$2 million a year from the federal government which does need to be matched on the Medicare rate by...Medicaid rate by Nebraska, but that is not an issue dealt with through this legislation. So there is somewhere around