

SENATOR NELSON: It would be fine if we were addressing the number of kids that we wanted to. Senator Stevens had a bill this year to retrain teachers, almost the same principle. We turned it down in Education. You can't do anything with 100. There is no follow-up, there isn't anything. It sounds good, it sounds big, sounds like we're going to take every at risk kid in the state, whatever at risk means, and as I say, the Legislative Research Department will do it, but as they said, we have no expertise whatsoever in running a program like this and riding herd on a group of children for a week's time, and then what's going to come out of it? Sure, it's a good experience, but I don't think two out of my region or any other region is going to make any big impact on the State of Nebraska or the education of our kids. And for \$60,000 I think we have a much, much better use of our money than what we would in this type of program and all of us can go down the list on...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR NELSON: Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Nelson. Senator Wehrbein, did you wish to address the Chambers amendment?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. President, members, I'll be brief because I think we've already talked about this quite a bit before. After some consideration, I did...I am going to support Senator Chambers' amendment. I supported Senator Hefner's at 15. I was concerned at that time whether 15,000 was really adequate to run a program that I thought was very important. Senator Chambers said he's investigated and finds that 30 will to the job. I'm inclined to go along with that. I think we should understand that this is in the legislative budget now. It's simply an allocation of the budget within a budget. It is not additional General Fund money, it's really going to come out of our budget as legislators. I think this is an important program. I have very limited experience with it except for some from my district that went. One in particular was really challenged by that program. It was a way for him to get away from home. He goes to Nebraska City School for the Visually Handicapped, but he really appreciated the program and he has been in contact with me several times since that time, since November actually, interested in what is going on in the Legislature in government and in other areas. I am not an educator, but I can only assume that experiences such as this