

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. President, members, I rise to support Senator Wesely's amendment. For those casual observers of the Legislature that opened up the book this morning and saw Senator Wesely running a \$3.4 million amendment, they probably said, that figures. But then if they'd looked, the figure is actually, well, these may be infamous words, but revenue neutral amendment, because it simply takes General Funds from one, DSS, and shifts federal funds over to DPI, so it does not create any burden on the budget. It simply isolates all of the MR funding over on the DPI side. I know ARC and some of the regions supporting this, and in some ways it actually makes the whole process a little clearer. There's been a great deal of confusion in recent years as we look at funding of mental retardation and their citizens in the State of Nebraska. You know, some is funded under DSS, some is funded under DPI. And anytime you have a situation like that in government, sometimes it...at least from an outsider's perspective it seems like one entity shifts the burden and/or credit to the other agency. At least with Senator Wesely's amendment, it does one thing, regardless of what it does to the lawsuit Senator Wesely referenced. It makes it clear that it isolates all those funds under DPI. And so that in and of itself is probably not a bad reason to do the amendment. Add onto that the situation that Senator Wesely talked about, with the lawsuit and developmental disabilities, I think it certainly puts us into a better position, if, indeed, that lawsuit materializes, as we think it will. For that reason, I rise to support Senator Wesely's amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Smith. Senator Smith. I don't see Senator Smith. Senator Wesely, there are no other lights, do you wish to close?

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President. Again, what we're trying to do is clarify the full funds. We're not changing any of the actual expenditures, but rather where those expenditures occur from. We think it is a clearer way to understand where the money is coming from, where it's going to, and should help us deal with a potential lawsuit that we're facing that would be unfortunate. With that, I'd ask for adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: All in favor of adoption of the Wesely amendment vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Have you