

primarily would be the conduit for this. Would have to say we want to try and establish a program. Then they would have to go out and find volunteers and then assess how many there would be and then train them and so it would depend, it would depend. It's sort of a grassroots up thing. We're not mandating it. We're saying if people want the chance, this will be in place to allow for that to happen. The answer to your question is I don't know how many, but it would take several because certainly with two full-time staff for 16 thousand some residents, boy, they can't get around. There is no way that is going to work.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, so it would be up to the Department of Aging to find the volunteers probably like in northeast Nebraska then.

SENATOR WESELY: No, it would be the local area. It would have to come from the local area who would then say are people interested, are you willing to do this and then get a response and see if there is an interest level.

SENATOR HEFNER: Like in Coleridge we have a 64-bed nursing home. They would probably try to recruit one or two volunteers right from the area.

SENATOR WESELY: I would think so, from the area. It would be best if it was from the area, just one or two, and you're not talking about...I mean, just volunteers coming in a couple hours a week probably just to find out how people are doing.

SENATOR HEFNER: One more question, how much do you feel this would cost? Would there be an increased cost in the Department of Aging's budget or...

SENATOR WESELY: Senator Hefner, it is estimated that it may cost in the range of \$8,000 for training but the advantage we see is you'll get so...rather than hiring more full-time staff, that 8,000 trains volunteers that could be across the state if they want to be. So it's a pretty good investment for our return.

SENATOR HEFNER: So the cost wouldn't be too great.

SENATOR WESELY: No, it would be minimal.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay. I see in the original bill the health