

government and the employees affected. And that's why I feel that at this very early stage on the debate on this bill that corporate Nebraska be brought into the process in a real way, and not, I would suggest, not in a significantly expense way. But it seems to me fair and equitable that if we, as a state, are going to adopt this Family Leave Policy, that the costs be shared equally by the citizens of the state, because the public policy supporting it, this initiative is a public policy that is for the betterment of all Nebraskans, not simply for the employees affected and the businesses that implement the policy. And as it is a shared benefit, I believe it should be a shared cost to all Nebraskans. And that's the same way...the same feeling I have about child care, and that's why I have proposed initiatives in the past to give tax credits for child care. With that, I would move the advancement of the amendment to the amendment, and give the rest of my time to Senator Bohlke.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Mr. Speaker, thank you, Senator Ashford. I appreciate it, and I especially appreciate it because he knows I have some hesitancies with this and still gave me some time. My problem with this amendment is that as other senators have had legislation on this floor, and we have heard from the Appropriations Committee the lack of money, and they have had fiscal notes that were fairly accurate in projecting the cost of that program, and we have...had scrutinized those very carefully, and now we have an amendment that really has no fiscal note attached. And really I know Senator Ashford says he doesn't think it will be great, but...and that costs should be shared by everyone in the state. But I have a problem voting with the amendment when I don't know what that cost would be to everyone in the state. And I understand what he's trying to do, but I also think it's very difficult to vote for an amendment, having no idea of the fiscal note or impact. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. We will now vote on the amendment to the amendment offered by...No, you don't get your time back. We will now vote on the amendment to the amendment offered by Senator Ashford. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 10 ayes, 25 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment to the amendment fails. Next