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this study and to make sure that we maintain places like Uta Halee and the Boys and Girls Home in South Sioux City and Boys Town. If not, we're going to have a lot of young people that the state's going to be spending four or five hundred dollars a day when they go out of the state. I would urge you to support Senator Withem's amendment and, reluctantly, I may support the other one. Thank you.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. Speaker...Mr. President and members, a couple of quick facts. First of all, I intend to support the Moore-Ashford amendment but, as pointed out by Senator Beyer, I'm reluctant to do that because it doesn't recognize the role of all of the other foster homes, not just the group homes, and their important role in all of this. Also, what we're caught here is in a sense some kind of not struggle but misunderstanding about where the responsibility of education folks begin and end and where the responsibility of those people who work in the Department of Social Services begins and ends as it applies to board and room. And, for the record, and for all of us to know, try to confirm these numbers to make sure they're correct, but we spend about \$19 million a year now on board and room for all kids from Nebraska who need this kind of care, plus we spend about \$5,030,000 on the education side. Out of all of that money, by the way, 75, only 75 wards of the courts are now placed out of state, but the cost for taking care of those 75 kids out of state in those homes referred to by Senator Robinson is \$5,700,000 a year. Now the 50 kids that are in Uta Halee Home, from these sources of funds now get \$400,000. Imagine if we couldn't find a way to provide that money for the Uta Halee program, given the same cost, average cost of those 75 kids now of out state who are wards of the court and placed by the state, we would have to find another \$3.8 million. That's why Senator Withem's effort to take a look and as described by Senator Will the systemic problems involved with this issue is so important and vital. It's important for us to support the Withem amendment and to work very hard. If we have any priority or any issue in the state that should be a high priority, this is, obviously, it. And I think to resolve it, all it simply needs is the understanding that goes along with what agencies, responsibilities, where they begin and end and what we can do in the State of Nebraska to provide for these special needs and programs that are very worthwhile and do it and do it for much less money. At the present time then,