

the infant who needs food, shelter and medical care deprive them of it and they will die, but while you want to kill off all these that you think are unfit to live, you continue to talk about trying to increase the population of Nebraska. This is the most idiotic, ridiculous, self-condemning exercise that the Legislature has engaged in. Now, Senator Hall's amendment gave me the opportunity to say those things, but his amendment goes in the direction that I think is inappropriate for us, it extends a favored type of treatment beyond the number of years that LB 828, the bill from Hades, would attempt to do. So I cannot support his amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Time. Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Jensen, on the Hall amendment.

SENATOR JENSEN: Yes, thank you, Madam President and members of the body, I would like to respond to a couple of things that have been mentioned here. First of all, I would agree with Senator Chambers that maybe 15 years is too long to extend a rate. However, I would like to mention a couple of things. First of all, in the development of power you have a power plant, you've extended capital, you've extended money to produce X amount of kilowatts and really if we want to help the poor out and lower rates, one of the best ways would be to run that power plant at its maximum amount and thereby lower the per kilowatt cost in the generation of that power. And so to take a plant, and these plants are already in existence, and to run them at their maximum optimum power, you're going to come up with a lower per kilowatt cost. That's just the nature of the utility's business particularly in generation of electricity. We have utilities, companies here in Nebraska that are...have public directors that are elected by the electorate and they are responsible people and I would look to them to set the rates that they deem necessary to provide the energy and then also there are many opportunities for them to adjust the rates either up or down for businesses, for individuals, but the best thing they can do is to generate their maximum amount of power and thus their per kilowatt cost is going to be low. But these directors in the past I think have done a remarkable job in providing Nebraska with low rates, we have some of the lowest rates in the nation, and to maintain those rates for an extended period of time. The five-year, certainly it could have been maybe four, it could have been six, but was a number that was picked out and hopefully with the rate schedule that we have, that it would be something that would, whether it be the Micron