

provide medical services for people?

SENATOR WESELY: Okay, the monthly figure for a family...oh, at 100 percent of poverty would be for a family of two 836 a month, for a family of three \$1,049 a month.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you. Okay, and that's 133 percent?

SENATOR WESELY: No, that's 100 percent.

SENATOR PIRSCH: That's 100 percent of the federal level.

SENATOR WESELY: Right.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Okay, so 100 percent of federal poverty is 836 and 1049. And what we are saying in this that...thank you, Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Uh-huh.

SENATOR PIRSCH: What we are saying in this is that we have a different standard of need that we are going to...that we have established in the State of Nebraska and now we say whereas we looked at that, along with all of these other programs,...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR PIRSCH: ...that are offered, both by the federal standards and by our standards, that we're going to automatically say, well, we don't want to look at that anymore and the standard of need will automatically increase every two years. We don't do that in our retirement proposals. I think we need to look at that. We also need to look at all of the other benefits and all of the other standards that we have put in place. It's very difficult to pinpoint our welfare programs because they vary so much by program and by eligibility. I think we need to continue to look at these programs as they come along. I support Senator Witek's amendment which will say we do not want to do this automatically every two years, we need to review it. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, as I've listened this morning, two things are going through my mind, two