

it. She takes the children, goes to a shelter to get away from that abuse. That's the only way she can do it normally because the...most of those women do not have careers. A lot of them don't have a career, they have no resources except from their husband. She ends up with no resources because the minute she leaves he cuts off any access she might have to savings accounts, checking accounts, or credit cards. She absolutely has no resources. So in order for her to survive and if she wants to get away from that abusive situation, she has to stay in the shelter, go on welfare, find housing for her children, as a temporary thing, till she can figure out where to go from there. And the reason I bring that up again is because I want you to put in your mind the people that we are talking about here. The other thing I...the other point I want to make, and I make this point a lot to people who talk...when they talk about Medicaid, please keep in mind the 60, 65 percent, something like that, of the Medicaid money in the State of Nebraska goes to elderly people in nursing homes. ADC actually is a fairly small percentage of the Medicaid money that's available. And the other thing, when you talk about the woman who is in a fairly good situation, perhaps has an education, if she hasn't worked for years, she has to get some skills so she can apply for a job in an office or perhaps if she was a teacher and didn't keep up her certification, she has to go back and do that. I've made this point many times, we need that leeway. We need...she needs that time to get her education, to finish that education so she can get a job that will pay her more, considerably more than that minimum wage. The other thing, if she is a woman from a very medium or lower income household with the husband and wife both working and she is bereft of any support, for whatever reason, she has to make eight, nine, ten dollars an hour to make up for those two jobs. So I just go over those things again for you so you'll understand who we're talking about and why they need the money. A young woman who maybe is in college and gets pregnant and the young man abandons her, which happens most of the time, she goes on welfare because...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CROSBY: ...perhaps she doesn't have a family around and even though she's getting the 293 a month after the baby is born, or because she...it's \$293 a month for a mother and one child, and that hasn't gone up since 1988, there are other expenses that she has to try to take care of just to live in her house or live in her apartment and take care of that child, buy