

are not statistics. I rejoice with them when they get their degree, when they get an associate degree in nursing or when they get a computer science degree so they can move up in the company that they are already working for, so they can get a better salary. They are people and this is what I keep trying to say to you today, think of them as people, not as burdens. We tend to think here that if all of these people would go away, all of our budget problems would go away and you know that's not true. I said that earlier today. But the postsecondary education provision in this amendment makes a bad bill a little better for me and when it comes right down to it, allowing the postsecondary education is one of the least expensive job training and education activities in the welfare system because it will help that woman get the kind of degree that she needs to go to work and have a profession, a job that will set her up in life and take care of those children and she'll go off welfare and she won't have to come back on it. So, for that reason, I'm not going to vote for Senator Witek's amendment. I think that it's all right that we talk about it because all of these...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CROSBY: ...amendments to the bill, the committee amendments are important that we understand them, but again, I'll just close by saying again, think of these people as people, faces, not statistics. They are living people who are trying to get out of the system. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Madam President and members of the Legislature. Senator Chambers, I think probably that if we had six years of relief from forced taxation, I'll bet you there would be a heck of a lot more people that would give generously in that seventh year. We are looking at a section that does, indeed, talk about education in a couple of the provisions. It talks about the self-sufficiency contract shall be required where that wage earner and other nonexempt members should be required to participate in one or more of the following, and then you have general education, job skills training, work experience, job search or employment. And then specifically it says education shall consist of the general education development program, high school, adult basic education, English as a second language, or other education programs approved in the contract. We did talk about this in committee and it seemed