

going to help them and it's going to impact these nonprofit providers. It's going to impact them heavily. So just to recap, our survey showed that the Nebraska's private human service providers would not be able to satisfy any new demands that might fall on them because they are already severely burdened. So we feel that the impact of welfare reform should be understood prior to the implementation of it and this can only be done with a comprehensive impact study. The human service providers surveyed include United Ways, food pantries, homeless shelters, and so on, and the overwhelming majority of these people said they are presently running at full capacity. Eighty percent of them said they would not be able to pick up the increased demand which they see that will be coming. And, again, I emphasize to you, these are people who are in the business, who are out there every day working one on one with families, with women...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CROSBY: ...and their children. So I urge you to take a good look at what I am talking about here. I think it's really important that we do have an impact study that gives us significant numbers so we know what this is going to do. And I'll answer any questions if I can. I appreciate the time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Bernard-Stevens would move to amend Senator Crosby's amendment. (FA147 appears on page 1622 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Bernard-Stevens, to open on his amendment.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you. Madam President, and members of the body, Senator Crosby, I support your amendment, by the way, and will be supporting the amendment. I have made two changes. I wanted to try to take away a little bit of the rhetoric which I understand we're trying to put in. So what my amendment does is two things. One is it, on Section 5 of your amendment, I strike the second paragraph. And so basically what would remain in Section 5 is the Legislature finds and declares that the welfare system in Nebraska must be reformed to more adequately support, stabilize and enhance individual and family