

entitlement which may force us to spend considerably more in state funds than we had planned to or appropriated to spend. And the amendment that I have, which will be passed out to you shortly, I apologize for not having it passed out to you, but this came up a little more quickly than I expected in the last few minutes. The amendment though basically does just one thing, and it makes clear that it is not the intent of the Legislature to create an entitlement, and in the event that this act did have the effect of creating an entitlement or the acceptance of funds, the acceptance of the federal funds is perceived as creating an entitlement, then the department is obligated, under the amendment, to immediately limit the scope of services provided, or the number of people eligible for services so that the overall state contributions to the program beyond the amounts appropriated for '95-96 and '96-97 are not required to be increased. That's all the amendment does and it's being passed out to you right now.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Cudaback would like to announce that the following guests are visiting the Legislature, Dawson District Number 17, from Lexington, Nebraska with their teacher. There are 12 fifth and sixth graders here from Dawson District 17 in Lexington. They are in the north balcony. Will you all stand and be recognized, please. Welcome to the Legislature. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: I'd like to divide the question. I don't know if we can do that with this, but I'd like to consider having the first paragraph taken separate from the second paragraph.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wesely, we will take the first...we will divide the two. Which do you prefer goes...Senator Beutler, do you wish prefers goes first, first or second paragraphs?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, Madam President, I guess I would question why the...why it's divisible? The second paragraph basically is contingent upon the first and I don't view them as separate.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Beutler, it is my interpretation that each paragraph can stand alone and pursuant to your rules it is therefore divisible. Would you prefer to go with first paragraph or the second paragraph first?