

on. But at this time I'll limit my remarks to what I've said but reemphasize that I very, very strongly support this amendment.

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** Senator Wesely.

**SENATOR WESELY:** Mr. Speaker, members, I rise in support of this as well. I was looking for that chart that Senator Pirsch had that showed the unwed pregnancies going up dramatically. And you know there are different solutions to the problem. You know one is to try and be punitive and cut off benefits and try to discourage that effort and that sort of an effort. But I think the other thing is to stop the problem in the first place and not have unwanted pregnancies and family planning can contribute to that. Obviously the other choice besides bringing the baby to term and then going on welfare for low income, the other option is abortion, of course, that's something that we don't want either. So it seems to me that the root of the problem is that we have too many situations where young people and others are having unwanted pregnancies, and the result is either abortion or, in the case of low income, going onto the welfare system. If you want true welfare reform, trying to deal with it up front with the proposal that Senator Hall has here is, I think, is very appropriate. So I rise in support of this and hope you will as well. Thank you.

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Will.

**SENATOR WILL:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I rise in support of the Hall amendment as well. And I will keep my remarks brief as well. I think that when we start talking about welfare reform it's something that we would all like to see as far as a more efficient method of delivering services to those most in need. But I think as we address that we need to look at the larger picture. The larger picture includes a comprehensive approach that tries to address problems before they occur. And I think certainly the intent of the Hall amendment is to set up a program whereby there is comprehensive family planning available across the state, not just in the Omaha and Lincoln and larger metropolitan areas, but across the state, to attempt to address the situation where you have low income women, you have teenagers that are in need of avoiding unwanted pregnancies, unplanned pregnancies. The more we can reach out to those people, provide services, prevent those pregnancies, the more money we will save in the long run, and I