

voting yes. Senator Elmer voting yes. Senator Schrock voting yes. Senator Hartnett voting yes. Senator Fisher voting yes. Senator Wehrbein voting yes. Senator Robinson voting yes. Senator Avery voting yes. Senator Bromm voting yes. Senator Janssen voting yes. Senator Coordsen voting yes.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Record.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 2 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Debate is ceased. The call is raised. Senator Crosby, you are recognized to close on your amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, for those of you who weren't here, they're on your desk. There is a sheet that says, "Why Punish the Kids", and this is the point of my amendment. The amendment is the sanction, the family sanction rule that the federal government enforces and which was waived when Donna Shalala so graciously gave the State of Nebraska all those waivers. The point of it is this that if a mother doesn't live up to the contract and Social Services says you may not have the benefits, you may...you must still...they must still find a payee to give the benefits, whatever those benefits would be due, to the child so the child receives the benefit of the money. Senator Bohlke said that, and pointed out, that if that happened, they would get more food stamps. Well, \$30 worth of food stamps, how far would that go? You've all been to the grocery store once or twice lately, I've been there. I bring home \$80 worth of groceries in not too many sacks, and that's for three people that don't eat at home all the time. And we don't eat a lot of gourmet food, I'll put it that way. I'm a pretty plain cook, but my point is \$30 in food stamps is not much of a trade for the cash payment. If a mother and one child, if she doesn't live up to the contract then she would get...then the child would be eligible for \$222 from the 293, they would take away the \$71 because the mother didn't live up to the contract. The other point I made, and I want to make it again, is that most of the women in Nebraska who are on welfare, I think, and I'm just sure they will work very hard to live up to the contract, because they want to get to be self-sufficient. Most of them are not lazy, goof-off people. They work hard, and they have to work. They have to be out interviewing or looking for a job or working, and the caseworkers follow up on that regularly. So if you will just read that very quickly and