

assistance. If you can find out the types of jobs, where they are located, the wage scale, whatever benefits may be attached to those jobs, in addition to what we are trying to do here on welfare, we may get an insight into whether or not all of this granting of tax incentives and benefits to corporations has really resulted in the production of jobs that will benefit the citizens and pay a living wage. So what we did in the immediately preceding provision in adopting the roundtable may not have as much substance as what will be done through what is before us now. The information accumulated pursuant to this section by the Department of Labor will be presented to the Governor's Roundtable. Somebody said blessed are those who go in circles for they shall be called wheels. Well, at the roundtable, that means they can all go in circles, all be wheels, and while that is going on, we still are building into this procedure and process an agency that is going to do some concrete work. It will be quantifiable and I certainly would want to see what their results are. The recommendations for adjusting the minimum wage I think is extremely important, not just with reference to welfare, but it ties into all of this discussion of trying to do something about antisocial behavior labeled crime. If you provide jobs that offer living wages, many people will not have idle time. They will be able to meet the needs of themselves and their families, and I am sure that we will see many societal benefits. So supporting this with more than just an act of faith, I would recommend and hope that the rest of you will support it also. If there are any questions that you want to ask of me, even though it's Senator Bohlke's amendment, I would be glad to answer them and tell you why I strongly support this language.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I just want to say a couple of quick things again about the bill, as a whole, and about this particular amendment. I still think that welfare reform is a misnomer. I think the system is there in place. It's the same system. It is going to be the same system. There are some refinements as far as the contract and that is concerned, but, as I said this morning, the flexibility is there for the director to help a family, but these families, the rest of the families aren't going to have that flexibility with their caseworker. That pains me greatly, and I still think that the director blew the whole case for welfare reform when she did...when she did exactly what I say they ought to be able