

into a whole different attitude about what we are trying to do in state government, and the attitude has changed from one of I am trying to take care of my category, my agency, my budget, to how do we work together to meet the common needs of Nebraskans out there, and I think that it has been a very, very positive change for the state of Nebraska. Ultimately, if this attitude continues, and then is substantiated through the law that we are proposing with LB 1044, and the structure is changed and we start pulling these people together and having that sort of genesis that has occurred flourish, you'll end up with a far better system in the end, that recognizes the broad range in needs of individuals and brings a critical mass of attention and resources to families in need, instead of a caseworker with 200 cases, or a child support worker with 2,000 cases out there struggling every day to try and do what little they can...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...to serve the needs of the people that they are responsible for. So I understand Senator Chambers' concerns. I think Don Leuenberger has been of concern to him. I see him in a different light. I see him as someone who has come in, had some problems, tried to deal with those problems, and has, in some cases, totally reversed course in a far more positive fashion for the state with what he has been doing. But, again, that issue of Mr. Leuenberger can be dealt with on his confirmation. I am here, again, emphasizing I think 1044 is a good bill. I acknowledge the concerns Senator Chambers has, I think they are dealt with, with the bill, in a constructive fashion. I rise in opposition to the Chambers amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I wish somebody other than Don Wesely were carrying this...this terrible bill, but he chose to do it, so we just have to do battle. I'd like to ask him a question, and maybe he would like to answer it from where he is at Senator Hillman's...oh, he is coming to his. Senator Wesely, are these various agencies that are being merged, are they all code agencies?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wesely.