

consequences of not taking action to make a change of this system. That means we spend more money than we would otherwise have to spend. We don't have people working together that need to be working together. And we have, I think, the problems that identified with some of these other regions continuing...

SENATOR WILL: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...into the future. I think change is in the wind. It's hard, it's difficult. Those calls and letters that Senator Klein's getting, Senator Fisher's getting, others are getting, you talk about your calls and letters. Who are those people? The CEO that you talked about, Senator Fisher, isn't he from the same entity...I do not know exactly, but I'm not...I'm guessing that he may be with the same group that we had a problem with and maybe he's done a good job now, but that same entity he's a CEO of I think was the one that was brought into question some years ago. These are people that benefit from the status quo. They have a special personal interest in maintaining the status quo, they are letting you know that. That's their right, that's fine. But think about more than just those individuals who've called and written to you. Think about the recipients of the services, think about the taxpayers of this state and recognize that a change in this system can benefit those individuals. And, yes, it'll mean a change to some of the employees involved, but it doesn't necessarily end up hurting them. I think in the end it'll help across the board with the sort of changes we're talking about.

SENATOR WILL: Time. Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Matzke, on the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR MATZKE: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I have to confess I have a little difficulty following the logic of Senator Chambers on this amendment. I think the amendment has some real merit, but his argument in support of it disturbs me. He talks about welfare reform and the state not meeting its responsibilities, and we all know from the debate last year, welfare reform is actually going to cost the state of Nebraska more money than it's been traditionally spending. He says the state does not meet its responsibilities in these areas. I would refer you to the handout that Senator Wesely handed out. On the third page it refers to total budget for service programs affected by LB 1059. Under that the Beatrice State Development