

SENATOR CROSBY: And are most of those people high school or...do you think?

SENATOR WESELY: Well, the figures we have are teenagers account for about 15 to 30 percent of the....

SENATOR CROSBY: Yeah. Well, my point is this, two things, and last year on welfare reform I opposed you pretty strongly because I thought you were not considering what women go through trying to survive and now, of course, we're coming back and saying, well, if we pay \$4.50 an hour, that will help the welfare mothers. Of course, I don't think it will. When I first started working, I was paid minimum wage. That's all I was worth. And...but I had on-the-job training in the place that I worked. They...I knew how to type and take shorthand and so on, but they showed me their systems and how to do the work. So when you...a little later when I got a little more adept at what I was doing, then I got a little raise. But this day and age, I don't feel that we have quite that same mechanism for people to go into certain businesses and then work up and get the on-the-job training. They have to know something. We have to know something when we get that job. And even the fast foods, if you look at the want ads in Lincoln and Omaha especially, I don't know how it is out in the middle or far west of the state, but I would guess there are some small businesses who can't afford to pay teenagers or even people who are just working to have a second job in the family or something, a whole lot more than minimum wage, but here in Lincoln, especially Amigo's and those places, start at \$6.00, \$6.75, plus they work with these young people to get their education and there's the point--we need education. And that's what's worrying me about the lids and all those property tax bills, is we're going to short change education and that's where the train will really come around the track and cut a lot of people off if they don't know how to do something. I happen to have the personnel sheets from Nebraska state government from our own Personnel Office, the jobs that were available between March 4th and 11th, and I just went through. A secretary I that they call it, \$1,248 a month, that's about \$6.94 an hour. Another, mail carrier, \$1,080 a month, \$6.00 an hour. And I just figured that out on the rule of thumb of 40 hours a week and 4-1/2 hours...4-1/2 weeks and then divided. That's how I came up with my hourly rate. Typist II, \$1,161 a month, that's \$6.45 an hour. You