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numbers, that more children are in the program and the costs have gone up. One of the things that we...you did have Voices for Children and Lincoln Action and some of those groups coming in to support the original bill; but when they looked at the committee amendments, one of the things they brought to my attention and to yours, too, I know, the...as amended, with this amendment, the two-year time limit for child care subsidies would apply to all families regardless of income level. This could have a lot...a lot of bad effects for families who are trying to move off of welfare and that's our goal in trying to set up this original two-year idea, which I was against. I have to remind everybody I voted against that welfare reform bill because it...all it did was try to set parameters for families who are working very hard to try to get off welfare. There are some families who will never leave welfare for various reasons. Some families, the parents, one or both or they have problems with keeping jobs, they have problems with education that certain...that they can't do certain jobs. They are not qualified and they never will be. So there is a certain segment of welfare families that will always be there so you have to face that. That's a given. The other thing is a given is that child care is...is...we're here, we're in it. When I ran in 1988, child care was just...out-of-home child care was just emerging. People didn't realize that and, in Nebraska, as I understand it, I think we're still...we have more working mothers than any other state, at least the states around us. We're way ahead on that number. And so those children do have to have care. We want the women who are on welfare, and the men, because there are some men, to get off welfare. They, in the meantime, they have to get education, they have to find a job that will pay enough to get them off welfare and for them to be independent. That is not easy nor simple. Some people make it and some don't. The other thing about the child care subsidy in Nebraska, compared to other states, it's not as high as some other...some other states do. Currently, we provide child care subsidies to families at or below 185 percent of the poverty level. That is \$25,678 a year for a family of three. It's a sliding scale fee...sliding...sliding fee scale where the closer a family's income is to the 185 percent the less of a subsidy they receive. In June 1999, 20 states provided child care subsidies to families over the 185 percent; 16 of the 20 provide subsidies at or above 200 percent. So I do think that...I don't