

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 4, 2005

LB 425

I believe that this extra money on this TANF is because that Nebraska has done a reasonable job in our welfare reform in getting people to work and getting people education also. So that's what this bonus money is, is about, is because of what we've done in the past.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you very much. I would...I am worried that if we pass this amendment, we're getting off in a direction that's confusing in terms of our public policy in this area and the successes that we've had, that it will be a back-door way in for some people who are trying to circumvent that. And I think we need more clarification. That's just one piece of the problems of this amendment. But I think it's most appropriate to not do something on the floor at this point in the Legislature cycle. I'm all for doing things to help pregnant women,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...particularly pregnant teens. I can tell you from work that I did before I came to the Legislature, though, I served with a group and we discovered that some young women were being served by eight different agencies because they were pregnant. They'd been enrolled in eight different programs, and that wasn't a very good use of our money either. I think this needs to be written more specifically. I think it's just not appropriate to add this to the budget bill this year at this time. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Senator Jensen, on AM1374. The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do see five hands. The question before the body is, shall debate cease on AM1374 to the committee amendments? All in favor vote aye; those opposed, nay. We're voting on ceasing debate on the Foley amendment, AM1374. Have you all voted on the question who care to? Have you all voted who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 27 ayes, 3 nays, to cease debate, Mr. President.