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

May 5, 2005

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circumstance where a pregnant woman has ever been denied services of any type by any agency in the state. The need does not exceed the available resources. As a matter of fact, this is an area that's more than covered, more than covered by resources and by individuals and by community agencies who are willing to step forward. The need is to protect the children, those children who are already with us, those children who are vulnerable, those children who are left in the hands of an inappropriate caretaker, those toddlers, those toddlers whose mothers' boyfriends shake them, those little ones that have nobody who's saying, yes, I am concerned about them. And I'm so upset about this. I'm so upset that you've turned your back on I took a bill into Appropriations for additional case this. managers funding, and it's in Appropriations. I respect that. I know that times are tight. I know that they're being careful with a dollar. But to come forward with a bill now, not going through the proper channels, not respecting how things are done here and asking for dollars for a program that's already addressed, and start-up dollars, when we have excellent agencies here in this state; and then, to add insult to injury, to make an accusation that the program that I've brought forward has not been researched, does not have a track record, when in fact it's proven to be effective. If I sound upset it's because I It's because I am. You've all taught me many valuable lessons, but I have one to bring to you and teach you. Social work is an important field. Protecting children is our mission. Stand up. If you don't take this opportunity to protect the children that we have in this state, Nebraska is going to have to face some difficult consequences and very, very soon. I hope I've been able to convey my message. I hope you've listened to me. I hope those folks that are on the phone, I hope those people that are talking to one another are aware of what's happening here. This is critical. This is important. Thank you. And I offer the rest of my time to Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Howard. And Senator Howard expressed thoughts, and I sometimes have to acknowledge that I have them, feelings that I entertain, when it comes to how children are treated, mistreated, and