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child abuse could be prevented through home visitation. That's a staggering number, and especially considering that we are a state...of the entire United States, we are the state with the highest number of children in the foster care system. I'm going to quote one of my fellow senators, who, a year ago, said, I support you in this resolution and I hope that when the time comes for appropriations that we all stand up and we're there for you. And that was Senator Kopplin, and I can thank him for that comment, thank him for his support. When I went into Appropriations Committee, I asked for \$500,000 to be put into this program, because what had happened with our very small amount for start-up money was that the Department of Health and Human Services had made the decision to break the program into two parts: \$150,000 was given to the Omaha program which the visiting nurses administer, Douglas and Sarpy County; \$50,000 went to the Scottsbluff area for a very small program out there. The amount of money that was given to the visiting nurses to work all of Douglas and Sarpy County only allows for 50 families to be visited. It's a very small number of children. For this to be the first recommendation from that task force, we're really not putting our resources where we can do the most good. When I think of the amount of money that's been awarded through appropriations to once again study foster care, \$500,000, I think, what good is it to do a study, what good is it to do a task force, when we don't implement the recommendations that come from that, when we know that this program, early intervention, can make a significant difference? In trying to chart a course, to look at how best I could address this, I talked to a number of senators, including Senator Foley, who gave me good advice on looking at putting on a floor amendment for the budget. Said, this is your one chance, this is your only chance; do it this way. And I appreciate that. I appreciate that recommendation. And I would also say I have great respect for Senator Pederson, Don Pederson, who has worked long and hard on the budget. And I know his committee of finite resources struggles with very worthwhile causes. But my request for appropriation missed being included by one vote. One person who was a very strong supporter, who supported me last year, wasn't able to be at the executive committee meeting. So by one vote, 40 percent of the children who could be prevented from being abused, neglected, are not going to have that happen. So