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Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

March 23, 2006      LB 994

SENATOR CUDABACK: AM2890 is withdrawn. Senator Jensen, you're recognized.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. And thank you, Senator Smith, for withdrawing those two amendments. I just got two things. The education for a physical therapist is six years, undergraduate; three years professional school at an academic approved center. By the way, we have two, two schools of physical therapy in this state--the University of Nebraska and Creighton University. We have no schools of chiropractic in this state. I also will pull this amendment. As I told you, we never would have filed this on a cleanup bill if we knew that we had opposition. I still...this is my 12th year here, and I still feel an affront because no one came and asked, would you consider a change in amendment, and...other than at the late hour. That bothers me. Mr. President, I would ask for you to pull AM2754.

SENATOR CUDABACK: AM2754 is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have to the bill, Senator Howard, AM2663. (Legislative Journal page 1000.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Howard, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the body. I will present this as briefly as I can. I know it's getting late and we're all getting tired of dealing with issues. I'm introducing this amendment in support of the front-line workers who will be responsible for implementing the new federal TANF guidelines. In addition to eliminating the TANF bonus money to Nebraska, Congress has enacted new guidelines that require Nebraska to show that half of our TANF recipients are working by October 1 of this year. Currently, the requirement is 35 percent, which we have been able to meet in past years. This change will mean that 1,700 more families will need to be participating in work activities this year if we are going to stay in compliance with the new requirements. Right now, each front-line caseworker is handling up to 120 families. These workers are responsible, in addition to other things, for