

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

March 24, 2006 LB 956

practical effect would be that it will help us with our certification processes because it will be clear that our auditor, the person who's in charge of our division, is in charge of the responsibility for auditing so it doesn't become mixed up with our research function in terms of people looking down at...with respect to certification, people looking at how it all functions together. With the two people that were added just this last year, next year and then the year after, they'll, of course, come more and more on-line so we'll be able to do a lot more work than we did before. But as I indicated before, if you really want to get in on a regular basis into a lot of what goes on in government, you really need to have a pretty good sized staff. I mean, even going from four to six, six is still small even for a small state. So it's a work in progress and we're trying to take it a step at a time. If we add too many staff, it's not going to work. You know, they need to be trained. They need to know how we function here in Nebraska, and so it's a slow process, too, at least I think it should be a slow process.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I would take some of my time back if I...that reminds me, considering some of the criticism we're taking in the public arena right now, at least the fact that there's waste, fraud, and abuse everywhere, so forth, and so on. I think we need to raise it to a higher plane in terms of its visibility because I think we've done a pretty decent job of finding things and we've had intense performance audits and we're gradually getting broader and bigger pieces. I mean, some of the bigger agencies are going to take enormous amount of work, so if that helps that, I'm certainly in favor of it. But I think some of the things we're doing have gone unanswered because there's no format for us to do it. But I think we are taking pretty good care of our internal obligations and responsibilities. It is not widely known or it wouldn't be...risen to the public criticism that's been implied at least. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Further discussion? Committee amendments are by the Exec Board. Senator Engel, there are no further lights on. You're recognized to close, as Chairman of the Exec Board, on AM2479.