

Stamps, Low Income Energy Assistance, Medicaid and child care benefits available to those in job training, among other benefits, a mother with two children could come out ahead of where she would be with a \$21,500 starting pay of a teacher in the Omaha Public Schools. If low rent public housing and Section 8 housing were factored into the calculation, the wages needed to make it pay to get...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR PIRSCH: ...off of welfare would be even higher than the \$23,000. The magnitude of the problem is depressing. Three zip code zones in northeast Omaha alone contain 3,410 families on welfare. Most often, and as the statistics we said from Nebraska, probably 46 percent a single mother with children. We have come to the point, both nationally and in our state, that we have to look at what we are doing, what incentives we are giving for what kind of behavior. We have not helped the poor person, we have made them more dependent. We are to second, third, yes, maybe even fourth generations.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR PIRSCH: This is a very small, small amount you might say, but it is a start.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Pirsch. Senator Lindsay.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Madam President, members. I rise in support of the amendment. Senator Pirsch has told us how people are ambitious enough, they'll go out, they'll get pregnant so that they can go out there and get 65 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. The figures are if you get a single mother with two kids, gets \$364 ADC and \$241 in Food Stamps. There ought to be people clamoring to live on 65 percent of the federal poverty guideline. Why don't we have more people doing this? This is a great lifestyle. We ought to be getting out there and getting people lined up for it! Because it's not a good lifestyle. The fact is...the fact is that when a mother has a child, when she has that newborn she's expected to pay for the food for that child, pay for the transportation, the clothes, all that on that total of, what is it, 500, a little over \$600, \$607, expected to feed that child. This doesn't take into account some of the things that Senator Day just mentioned, a crib, you got to have somewhere for the kid to