

that most important of all this program in itself can perhaps set a pattern which if followed in other agencies could perhaps be a major factor in the reduction of government expenditures. There are many people in the various programs who with just a little help could make it on their own, but somehow, some way because of the various rules and regulations we have not been able to give them that little bit of a push or a nudge or a hand. I think that this demonstrates that sometimes a little bit of extra help makes a person self-sufficient, keeps them at home, keeps the family together and certainly reduces the overall cost to the State of Nebraska or to the local subdivision. I would hope that the program will be allowed to continue and to expand and as Senator Wesely has said, to bring additional benefits to a great many people. But most of all, and I am sure that Senator Wesely will continue in this area because he has done an excellent job thus far, most of all if we apply this same kind of principle to other state programs and perhaps some at the local level, we might find that we can provide much better services to our people for a significant reduction in cost and I would hope you would support the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Warner, please.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I guess I have a question of Senator Wesely but I would make a couple of comments first. This particular program is one of the...it is a budget issue which eventually will be before you. The original request, I think, has come from the Department. As indicated by the fiscal note, the activity they are presently doing is the use of Title 20 federal funds but there is a request for \$200,000 general fund money for next year as the request was presented. And if the body wishes to advance the bill, that is okay. But I think it should be nevertheless held on Final Reading till the budget issue is addressed and resolved in total by the Legislature because if for some reason it would not be funded, then there would be no point in extending the authorization indefinitely or permanently. So I guess my question is, Senator Wesely, if you would see any problem with the bill not being considered on Final Reading until the whole budget issue as far as the Department of Social Services is resolved out and we know if it is going to be general fund, a portion, and what that total dollar amount and probably a better handle of what