

Licensing does not guarantee the presence of the personal attributes that I look for in a person who provides care for my children." We had a public hearing out at Ogallala, Nebraska. Fifty people came to the hearing, which is quite a few on one issue, fifteen testified in favor of LB 270, two testified against it and one of those was a state employee that was afraid of losing their job. And these were parents of children, some of them were day care center people who operate day care centers. This bill does not unlicense all day care centers. We are not destroying the system. We are just saying that people are capable of taking care of five without big brother and big government looking down their nose and looking over their shoulders. If the parent is interested enough, they will go to the day care center and look for themselves as to what this day care center looked like, fire exits and all these things. They can look. I don't think the state should be sticking its nose in things like this all the time, but beings it is on a state level, I will have to say let's leave it there. I don't believe the county commissioners want to be saddled with this so I would support Senator Newell in his amendment and I ask you to support it also. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President, colleagues, I am in kind of a difficult position right at this point to discuss the bill because we are on the amendment which makes the bill a little more restrictive but I think because we are almost in an auction situation it is difficult to separate the amendment from the concept of the bill. Certainly there is nothing wrong with the basic concept of the law as it exists and I want to make it clear that I support Senator Burrows attempt to liberalize the existing stipulations. What I fear is that when we set up these restrictions one of two things can happen. The first thing is obviously good in the fact that we get safer, better qualified child care and that is laudable and certainly a good thing but another thing can happen also. We become so restrictive in some areas of the state that the alternative then suddenly is no available child care, and we have seen this in the health care situation. There is just a hospital out in western Nebraska closed down because of their inability to get certified people to work in that hospital. Now I wonder if those people are better off with no hospital as they were with people with not quite the same amount of qualifications. I have some real problems with that. I think, yes, that is the alternative. They can go to a veterinarian now. That is the alternative.