

to spend money.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time has expired.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. On the motion to indefinitely postpone, Senator Rod Johnson, followed by Senators Smith and Haberman.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members, I rise to strongly oppose the indefinite postponement of this bill. I was listening to Senator Wesely's comments relative to the kill motion. He brought up, I thought, some fine testimony, but he said each of us can develop examples from our districts where we've had a bad case or bad cases in that district, and that improvements are now being made to correct and rectify those problems. Well, the fact is, yes, there are some very significant problems in this state with the placement of juveniles either in foster care or for adoption. I've been involved in a couple just recently that I won't go into on this floor because I don't think it's necessary, just to say that there are some bad examples out there, and I think the department is aware that they need to get their house in order and that steps need to be taken to correct the problem. But as a former colleague of ours, Senator Harold Sieck, used to say we need to send a message and I don't know if LB 182 is the right message to send or not, because I'm not an expert on this bill, but I feel very strongly that by killing the bill we simply tell the department that everything is okay, that we'll give some more lip service to the problem and then let the problem continue to fester. I think move the bill and push it as hard as we can and send a very loud and clear message that we're not going to tolerate this kind of situation any longer, that there needs to be some steps taken to correct the problem. Senator Coordsen's bill, I think, is headed in the right direction to have some oversight on the problems that exist, and make sure that somebody in the state is minding the store as it relates to juveniles, because there are some young people in this system that are not being served correctly and their lives will forever be damaged by the decisions that have been made. As I said, I've got some pretty bad examples of what has happened to some young people in an area that I was involved in last week. We had a meeting with the Department of Social Services. And I don't know if I necessarily feel as if I should be a conduit to